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CENTENNIAL HISTORY

OF

POLK COUNTY,

IOWA,

BY J. M. DIXON, BLIND EDITOR.

Authorized by the Board of Supervisors of Polk County.

MRS. J. M. DIXON AND J. W. DOUGHTY, AMANUENSES.

DES MOINES:
STATE REGISTER, PRINT.
1876.

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1898.

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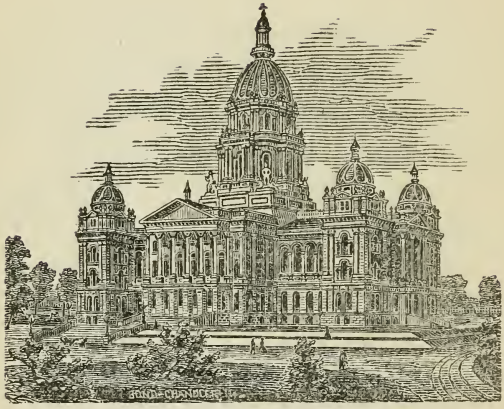
DEDICATION.

To the citizens of Polk county, among whom the Author has been living during the past twenty years, enjoying the benefit and personal acquaintance with many of them, this unpretended volume is affectionately dedicated.

J. M. DIXON.

Des Moines, October, 1876.



NEW STATE CAPITOL BUILDING OF IOWA.

PREFACE.

Three persons, consisting of my wife, my wife's brother, J. W. Doughty, and myself, have devoted more than three months of unremitting toil, to the compilation of this history. From the day in which we began the work, the material of which it is composed has grown and expanded on our hands beyond all previous conception or anticipation. The limits to which this volume has been of necessity restricted, have compelled us to throw away many pages of manuscript, which ought to be preserved and embodied in book form.

The critical reader will doubtless think of many subjects which should have been incorporated into this history, but which are absent. Let him remember, however, that these subjects would have been presented here, if space had been found for them. One department alone of this work—The Incidents of History—would of itself, if properly amplified, have formed a work very much larger than this volume. In the progress of our labor, we have reverted in thought to scores of events, which, though passing into utter oblivion, we have not been able for want of room, to introduce.

In writing up the Townships, the only facility we possessed in obtaining material, was afforded by correspondents, and not by conversation with pioneers. In the city here, we had the pleasure of talking up these subjects with many gentlemen whose names are published in their proper connection; but with the exception of Thomas Mitchell, John D. McGlothlen, A. S. Rice, and one or two others, we have not had the benefit of a conversation with a solitary

citizen from the country. We have written repeatedly to parties in all the country townships, urging them to meet us at some point in Des Moines, or to respond by letter to such interrogations as we thought proper to propound. The result was, that the information we sought was not obtained, except in a few desultory cases. In this contingency, the only thing we could do was to subsidize the published histories of others, or such floating paragraphs in the local journals as might render us assistance. The history, therefore, of the townships, which we have prepared for this volume, is not as accurate, nor as complete as we could wish; but our readers are assured that we have secured to ourselves every possible help in the compilation of this branch of our history.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to return our thanks to P. M. Casady, Dr. D. V. Cole, Byron Rice, S. F. Spofford, W. H. McHenry, R. W. Sypher, Barlow Granger, J. B. Bausman, C. A. Mosier, and other pioneers, who have given us substantial information. The City and County officers have generously responded to the many demands we have made upon them. The County Auditor, George C. Baker, contributed hours of his time in helping us to decipher and utilize the old records. The labor of two days was expended in looking up the dates of township organizations.

A person inexperienced in that class of work involved in the preparation of a history like this, can form no adequate conception of the toil and responsibility which have been assumed by the author. In search of one little date alone, we have gone twenty times to the individual from whom it was to be obtained, before a satisfactory result was reached; and as history and biography are composed of names, dates, and events, it may well be imagined that untold labor has been expended in the production of this volume.

THE AUTHOR.

OFFICIAL HISTORY.

In the latter part of June last, the Board of Supervisors, in deference to the following Proclamation of Governor Kirkwood, employed me to write an official Centennial History of Polk County. The contract to write the work has been faithfully executed, and the result is now before the reader.

THE CENTENNIAL.

BY THE GOVERNOR:

A PROCLAMATION.

To the People of the State of Iowa:

The Congress of the United States having in view a commemoration of the approaching Anniversary of National Independence that shall fitly and worthily close the first century of American history, has adopted a resolution, which has been brought to my notice by the Secretary of State of the United States in the following communication:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, April 15th, 1876.

To HIS EXCELLENCY, *the Governor of the State of Iowa:*

SIR:—I have the honor to inclose herewith, for your information, a copy of the Joint Resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives, approved by the President on the 13th of March last, recommending to the people of the United States the adoption of measures to obtain record of

the progress of our institutions during the first century of their existence.

It has been deemed proper to bring the joint resolution in question to the notice of the Governors of the several States.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

JOHN L. CADWALADER,

Acting Secretary.

JOINT RESOLUTION on the celebration of the Centennial in the several counties or towns.

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled, That it be, and is hereby, recommended by the Senate and House of Representatives to the people of the several States that they assemble in their several counties or towns on the approaching Centennial Anniversary of our National Independence, and that they cause to have delivered on such day an historical sketch of said county or town from its formation, and that a copy of said sketch may be filed, in print or manuscript, in the Clerk's office of said county, and an additional copy, in print or manuscript, be filed in the office of the Librarian of Congress, to the intent that a complete record may thus be obtained of the progress of our institutions during the First Centennial of their existence.

Approved, March 13, 1876.

I take pleasure in calling the attention of the people to this Congressional recommendation, and in bespeaking for it responsive action. We are very happily situated to carry out its object. Our history, eventful as it has been, can be told by men who have witnessed it all, and indeed helped to make it. The desired sketches of many of our counties, towns, and townships, can be made by such persons, while they can furnish material for all of them.

It is suggested that narratives be prepared and read on the day designated—

1. Of the several counties.
2. Of the several townships.
3. Of the several cities and towns.

And that one copy of each be transmitted to the Congressional Library, one to the State Library at Des Moines, and one to the State Historical Society at Iowa City, and one filed with the Auditor of the county.

The value of the information thus amassed would be materially augmented could it be supplemented with other sketches, such, for instance, as

4. Of school-districts under both present and former organizations.
5. Of colleges, academies, and other private institutions of learning.
6. Of the various church organizations of the State.
7. Of the missionary, benevolent, literary, scientific, and fraternal associations.
8. Of agricultural progress, including histories of State and County societies.
9. Of manufactnring interests, including notices of organizations for furthering the same.
10. Of the mining interests.
11. Of the mercantile interests.
12. Of the several professions.

And, in short, of all enterprises or occupations whose history may in any manner illustrate the development of the resources of the State, its past progress, and its present condition.

It is suggested that the last named sketches be presented to the associations or bodies interested for their information at such times as may suit their convenience, and copies sent to the State Library, and the State Historical Society, and also to the central authority of the association, denomina-

tion, or order, in cases where individual societies are thus connected.

It is recommended that appointments be made at an early day of proper persons to prepare the sketches, so as to afford all the time practicable for such preparation.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Iowa.

[L. S.]. Done at Des Moines, this 11th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and seventy-six, of the Republic the one hundredth, and of the State the thirtieth.

SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD.

By the Governor:

JOSIAH T. YOUNG, Secretary of State.

DISCOVERY OF IOWA.

On the 18th day of June, 1673—more than two hundred years ago—those two historic explorers of the olden time, James Marquette and Louis Joliet, glided with their canoe into the current of the Upper Mississippi, on a voyage of discovery. On their way southward to the mouth of the river Arkansas—still on the bosom of the Father of Waters—they noted the bold, abrupt bluffs which are now seen overlooking the city of McGregor, in Clayton County. Their eyes also rested on many other wonderful scenes of nature on the western bank of the river, which, nearly two centuries later, were intimately associated with populous cities, and with the stirring march of a purer and loftier civilization. At the remote period to which we refer, all that vast territory, stretching away westward from the river Mississippi, under the name of Louisiana, belonged to France by the right of discovery; and this right was maintained for ninety years. It was then ceded by the stipula-

tions of treaty to Spain; and in the year 1800, it was retroceded to France, where the ownership rested until 1803, when the whole magnificent territory, with all its sublime possibilities, became the property of the United States Government. The amount paid for it was $15,000,000.

STATE AND COUNTY.

The Territory of Iowa was admitted into the Union in 1846, constituting the twenty-ninth State in the order of admission. Polk County was organized under a law of the Territorial Legislature, passed January, 1846. It is bounded on the north by Boone and Story counties; on the south by Warren; on the east by Jasper, and on the west by Dallas. It embraces an area of about 350,000 acres of land. It is finely watered by the river Des Moines, and numerous tributaries, among which our own classic 'Coon occupies a prominent place.

DES MOINES RIVER.

The Des Moines River, or "River of the Monks," from which early title its present name is derived, is one of the natural beauties of the County and of the State. Entering the County near its northwest corner, it takes its departure at the extreme southeast. Its principal change of direction in the County is at Des Moines, where it receives an impulse eastward by the discharge of the Raccoon River. Following these two directions of the stream, by two corresponding right lines, we find that the river waters a stretch of country in Polk County, of thirty-five miles in length, while the meanderings of the stream increase this distance to about fifty-five miles. For a distance of about ten miles, however, by the water measurement, the river forms the line between the Counties of Polk and Warren.

Being the largest river of the interior of Iowa, the attention of navigators was drawn towards it in an early day.

The lower Des Moines river was visited by steamers as early as 1836. It was not until the year 1843, that the banks of the river as high up as the locality then known as "Coon Fork," were washed by the waves of a vessel propelled by steam.

The year 1839 gave birth to the first legislative enactment, relating to the construction of dams on the Des Moines in Van Buren County, which was the beginning of public works of that nature on that stream. The rise, progress, and final result of the great scheme that promised to make this justly termed "grandest of Iowa rivers," a navigable water route, form many pages of our legal and legislative histories; but our limited space forbids any extended reference to the subject.

Since 1843, and before the days of railroads, up to the year 1859, an occasional steamer managed to pass over the dams, making a hurried excursion to Des Moines. In those days, Central Iowa had no list of exports; there were no return freights, and but few passengers to reward the labors of the adventurous navigators.

Numerous experiments have been made in the navigation of the river above Des Moines, but generally with craft badly adapted to the service. The most notable attempt in this line was made by Henry Scribner about the year 1869. Several frail vessels were constructed from time to time, which were allowed to go to decay. The nearest approach to successful navigation, was the attempt made during the present year by William Beazley, in the construction and operation of a little side-wheel steamer, which bore no name and but little freight,—her chief duty being that of towing scows or barges, loaded with lumber and fire-wood, on the downward trips.

Those best acquainted with the river, hold to the opinion that a comparatively small expenditure of money would render the stream useful in the transportation of timber in

all the various shapes and conditions needed in the building up of a large city, and accommodate as well, the agricultural district accessible to its double coast line of about fifty-seven miles of thickly wooded shores. The fall of the river is sufficiently rapid to afford excellent water power; and in time, the combined advantages of power and improved navigation will be attained by the construction of permanent dams at several points within the limits of the County.

RACCOON RIVER.

The Raccoon river, which takes its rise near the lands drained by the Little Sioux, brings the overflow of waters of Swan Lake in Pocahontas county, and Storm Lake in Buena Vista county, down through the counties of Calhoun, Sac, Carroll, Greene, Guthrie, and Dallas. It first strikes Polk County near the southwest corner, and flows to its confluence with the Des Moines at the Capital City, a distance, measuring directly, of nine and three-fourths miles; but such is the curvature of this flow of waters, that its actual length in the County is but little short of twenty-one miles. The fall is rapid; and with the exception of the dam at Commerce, its currents are unchecked by any obstacle, save the resistance offered by the numerous bends.

Fagan's mill, situated near the mouth of Walnut Creek, was the chief point of interest connected with the stream in the earlier days of the County. The river's wide and wooded bottom lands, are annually visited by the little remnant of the tribe of Indians who once claimed them as a part of their happy hunting grounds. Still faithful to its name, and the traditions of those early non-settlers of the country, it furnishes to their skillful hunters numerous specimens of the animal from which it takes its name. The prairie lands of its valley proper, are unsurpassed in fertility; and many

of our best Polk County farms lie within sight and sound of its rushing waters.

The thrifty village of Commerce is as yet the only point of commercial importance on its banks west of Des Moines. Another well known land-mark is the extensive and well improved farm of James C. Jordan, whose enterprise and hospitality have long made him conspicuous among the early settlers of the vicinity. A mile east of this locality is the point of divergence of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific and the Des Moines & Fort Dodge Railroads. The demands of shippers call for the location of another village at this point, which, we understand, is about to be accomplished.

SKUNK, OR CHICAQUA RIVER

The good taste which has been displayed in the retention of this name, Skunk, bestowed by the Indians, may fairly be questioned. It is, however, our province to deal with the physical features of this most singular of Iowa streams. Its mission seems to be to water a certain area of Iowa's fertile soil, which duty has, up to this present writing, been faithfully discharged, as all who have been connected with the service of transportation of freight or passengers across its still but muddy waters, can freely testify. It gathers up the surplus waters of Hamilton county, and flowing through parts of Boone and Story, passes through Polk, and thence on a line nearly parallel with the Des Moines river, empties into the Mississippi at a point some ten miles below the city of Burlington. It crosses the northeast corner of the County, describing a distance, geographically speaking, of thirteen miles; but its many bends give it a water-line of twenty-two miles in length in the County.

The fall of the stream is in marked contrast with that of the Raccoon river; and the drainage of the large area of country through which it passes, flows off slowly, widening out over its wide, rich bottom-lands, and presenting formid-

able difficulties to all means of transportation. For some years the project of cutting a direct channel for the entire distance of thirteen miles, has been agitated, with a view of promoting more rapid drainage and reclamation of the valuable lands in its vicinity. The usually gentle slopes of the uplands contiguous to the stream, are rich in agricultural wealth, and they are rapidly becoming occupied with improvements of a good class. It is confidently predicted that the talked of change in the condition of the stream, will furnish to the citizens of the County several thousand acres of tillable bottom lands, as valuable in point of productiveness as any in the world.

ANCIENT MOUNDS.

Fifteen mounds, the work of a pre–historic race, dotted the surface on the original site of Fort Des Moines. One of these ancient relics stood near where Moore's Opera House now stands, on the summit of which was erected the old residence of W. W. Moore. Another one stood on the site of the Court House, and others were scattered about in different localities. They are supposed to be the places where the dead of antiquity were buried, as bones have frequently been exhumed from them. At what age of the world's history, or by what race of men these tumuli found all over the continent were created, no one can tell. The curious reader in search of more minute particulars, is referred to a very interesting treatise on the Pre-Historic Races, written by J. W. Foster. The work to which we refer proves very conclusively, that the Mound-Builders of the Mississippi Valley constituted a populous and powerful nation, divided into stationary communities. They worshiped the elements, and their form of government subordinated the masses to hereditary power. They were at least semi-civilized, as many of their inventions and appliances for the uses of society, plainly testify. It is be-

lieved, that this old race of men were driven from their home in the great Valley by an irruption of enemies; and they afterward established their home in Central America, where the ruins of their magnificent cities and temples are still visible.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The surface of the County is not a dead and monotonous level, like many of the counties of Northern Illinois, and other sections of the West, but it is gently undulating, forming an agreeable picture to the eye. Although the prevailing feature of the surface is prairie, there are, nevertheless, many fine bodies of timber decorating the valleys of the Des Moines and other streams, and giving beauty and diversity to the scenery. The County lies a little South of the centre of the State; but in respect to the other cardinal points of the compass, it is centrally located, lying midway between the two great rivers of the continent, and indeed of the globe—the Missouri and Mississippi.

ABORIGINAL POPULATION.

Polk County was included within the Sac and Fox reservation until the 11th day of October, 1842, at which time the title was transferred by treaty to the United States Government. It was stipulated, however, that the Indians should remain undisturbed within their reservation for three years after the date of the treaty—that is, until the 11th day of October, 1845. In this connection, Hon. C. C. Nourse remarks in his admirable Centennial Address, delivered at Philadelphia, September 7th, 1876:

"In obedience to our progressive and aggressive spirit, the government of the United States made another treaty with the Sac and Fox Indians on the 11th day of August, 1842, for the remaining portion of their lands in Iowa. The treaty provided that the Indians should retain possession of

all the lands thus ceded until May 1, 1843, and should occupy that portion of the ceded territory West of a line running North and South through Red Rock until October 11, 1845. These tribes at this time had left their principal village at Ottumwah-no, now called Ottumwa. As soon as it became known that the treaty had been concluded, there was a rush of immigration to Iowa, and a great number of temporary settlements were made near the Indian boundary, waiting for the first day of May. As the day approached, hundreds of families encamped along the line, and their tents and wagons gave the scene the appearance of a military expedition. The country beyond had been thoroughly explored, but the United States military authorities had prevented any settlement, or even the marking out of claims by any monuments whatever. To aid them in marking out their claims, when the hour should arrive, the settlers had placed piles of dry wood on the rising ground at convenient distances, and a short time before 12 o'clock of the night of the 30th of April, these were lighted, and when the midnight hour arrived it was announced by the discharge of fire-arms. The night was dark, but this army of occupation pressed forward, torch in hand, with axe and hatchet blazing lines with all manner of corners and angles. When daylight came and revealed the confusion of these wonderful surveys, numerous disputes arose, settled generally by compromise, but sometimes by violence. Between midnight of the 30th of April, and sundown of the first of May, over one thousand families had settled in this new purchase. While this scene was transpiring, the retreating Indian was enacting one more impressive and melancholy. The winter of 1842-3 was one of unusual severity, and the Indian prophet, who had disapproved of the treaty, attributed the severity of the winter to the anger of the Great Spirit because they had sold their country. Many religious rites were performed to atone for the crime. When the

time for leaving Ottumwah-no arrived, a solemn silence pervaded the camp, and the faces of their stoutest men were bathed in tears; and when their cavalcade was put in motion, toward the setting sun, there was a spontaneous outburst of frantic grief from the entire procession. The Indians remained the appointed time beyond the line running North and South through Red Rock. The government established a trading post and military encampment at the Raccoon Fork of the Des Moines river, then and for many years known as Fort Des Moines. Here the red man lingered until the 11th of October, 1845, when the same scene that we have before described was re-enacted, and the wave of immigration swept over the remainder of the "New Purchase."

Soon after the treaty, there were three Indian villages situated not far from the site of Des Moines. The one of which Keokuk, the successor of the celebrated Black Hawk, was Chief, was located on Keokuk prairie. The one of which Poweshiek was Chief, was situated near the present village of Colfax. The third village, whereof but few historic traces are left, was ruled by the war-club of Hard-Fish, of whom a meagre and unsatisfactory record remains.

The Sacs were an inoffensive tribe, so far as their history in Polk county is concerned. Their wigwams, or houses, were of the most barbaric structure, formed of poles and bark, and their internal accommodations were of the rudest character. Their Chief, Keokuk, was a brawny, stalwart savage, of commanding presence, weighing 250 pounds. He distributed the government annuity among his people, and presided over them with much dignity, despite the fact that he would frequently, like the multitudes of his race in modern times, give himself up to paroxysms of intemperance. In military prowess, he was deficient, yet he sustained himself as a popular Chief. After his removal with his tribe to Kansas, or, rather, to the Territory of Missouri, he died of

a wound received from a member of Hard-Fish's band, the fatal result of a quarrel.

Poweshiek was not tall, but heavy in person, possessing great popularity among the whites. The grave of this chieftain, who belonged to a race which, amid the vicissitudes of nations, conquered, ruled, and passed away, cannot now be identified. Nineveh and Babylon left their ruins as monuments of their ancient splendor, but the villages, or rude cities, as they may be styled, of Keokuk and his cotemporary chieftains, have scarcely left a vestige or ruin to indicate the influence which they once exercised among the red dwellers in the great wilderness of the West.

U. S. SOLDIERS.

The Indians inhabiting the reservation were in constant danger of forays and incursions from the Sioux, a cunning, warlike, and merciless tribe, whose prowess in war has been recognized throughout the Northwest. As a measure of protection, the Government, early in 1843, sent a detachment of soldiers, under command of Captain James Allen, to a point on the Upper Des Moines which was then known in border language as the Raccoon Forks, but which was subsequently designated as Fort Des Moines. The little steamer Ione, whose prow was the first to penetrate by steam the waters of our river so far up, landed at the foot of what is now known as Court Avenue, on the 9th day of May, 1843, and there disembarked her cargo of live troopers, after having made the woods re-echo with her resonant whistle. The detachment, consisting of 120 men, including officers, was divided into infantry and cavalry, as the service seemed to demand.

Work was immediately commenced on the fortification. The buildings, constructed for military purposes, composed of logs, were about forty in number, a portion of them extending from the confluence of the rivers Des Moines and

Raccoon, northward along the bank of the Des Moines, and another portion extending westward parallel with the other, forming a triangle opening out on the West and North.

Among the officers and attaches of the two companies, one of which was cavalry and the other infantry, were Captains James Allen and Gardiner, Lieutenants Grier, Potter, and King; Surgeon Griffin, and Sergeant Haley. James Drake was gunsmith and blacksmith, and J. M. Thrift was tailor. Major Beach was Indian Agent, occupying his quarters on Agency prairie, with Joseph Smart as interpreter. Messrs. Baker and Charles Worthington were blacksmiths.

Among the arrivals of 1843 were those of Robert Kinzie, Benjamin Bryant, Charles Weatherford, and John Sturtevant. Among the settlers who arrived the same and the following year, were William Lamb, Alexander Turner, John B. and W. A. Scott, (Indian traders,) Peter Newcomer, and James Campbell.

INDIAN TRADERS, ETC.

During the period last mentioned, Phelps & Co., from Fulton, Illinois, traders in furs, were permitted to establish a depot on the East Side, near the place where General Tuttle's packing-house now stands. Two traders, with transposed initials, viz: G. W. and W. G. Ewing, landed a keel-boat, at the Fort, East Side, on the 3d of May, 1843, as we understand from a jubilant memorandum jotted down by our late fellow-citizen, Benjamin Bryant, Esq. The Ewings were men of rare energy, shrewdness, and courage; and in their respective capacities of sutler and Indian trader, they were eminently successful. Aside from the barracks, Robert Kinzie, pioneer merchant, erected a building on the site of the Sherman block, in which he kept a lot of merchandise for the benefit of the garrison and other parties.

This trade, however, was engrossed to a great extent by the regular sutler.

The first building for residence purposes, was constructed of logs by the Ewings, forming a stupendous contrast, were it still in existence, with the palatial mansion, worth a quarter of a million, erected on Terrace Hill in these later times by the banker, B. F. Allen.

CLAIMS AND PIONEERS.

No claims, as a rule, were permitted to be made by the immigrants until the Indians should vacate the lands according to treaty; but exceptions were made by the agents of the government in favor of Benjamin Bryant, Peter Newcomer, and several others, whose names have already been mentioned. Dr. T. K. Brooks, one of the grand old pioneers of those times, settled originally at the old agency east of the river Des Moines. He afterwards bought the Phelps claim, and blended farming with the practice of medicine. The house to which he first removed, was built in part by a brother of Senator Wright, of this city.

FIRST WEDDINGS.

Benjamin Bryant, the first white man wedded within the limits of our County, after its organization, filled for many years after his arrival here, many important offices to the general acceptance of the people. In the summer of 1846, while Treasurer of the new County, Mr. Bryant led to the altar Miss Elvira Birge; and the festivities which followed, including the infair and a genial supper at the Mitchell Tavern, were of the most lively and suggestive description. Christopher Birge, father of the bride, died a few months after this event. The parties to the first marriage within our borders in Territorial times, were John Baird and Nancy Jane Wellman, Rev. Mr. Post officiating. The marriage of Mr. Bryant was solemnized by Addison Michael,

Justice of the Peace, a gentleman who figured largely in those primeval days.

FIRST BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Early in 1845, an infant daughter born to Lieut. Grier and his lady, signalized the first event of this kind at Fort Des Moines; but a little while afterward, this child of promise as well as of history, was transplanted by death from its western home to its native skies. Rev. Ezra Rathburn, a gifted and exemplary minister of the M. E. Church, who still remains with us in the grace and excellence of a strong and unblemished character, preached the funeral discourse. A few weeks before the birth of this child, J. M. Thrift, the company's tailor, living East of the river, experienced an unusual elation of spirits, on account of the gift of an infant son, graciously conferred by the wife of his bosom.

COUNTY SEAT LOCATION.

In 1846, four townships in the northern part of what was afterwards Warren county, were attached to Polk, through the intervention of Thomas Mitchell, Dr. Fagan, and two other gentlemen, who were solicitous that Fort Des Moines should become the county seat. With the four townships annexed, the Fort would become more central in the County. An ambitious village by the name of Brooklyn, now known in history only, was inaugurated on paper by Dr. Brooks, Jerry Church, and William Lamb, who intended it to ornament the soil two miles east of the Fort, as a competitor of Fort Des Moines. The result was, however, that the latter place secured the ascendancy, and Brooklyn went houseless to its solitary grave. The object having been achieved in the location of the county seat at the Fort, the four disputed townships were returned in 1853 to the county from which they had been taken. The commissioners of location, appointed by the Legislature, were Thomas Hughes, of John-

son, M. L. Williams, of Mahaska, and Giles M. Pinneo, of Scott county. In this county seat contest a gentleman named A. D. Jones, who from that time became conspicuous in our local annals, was an earnest champion of the Fort. He arrived February 13th, 1846, and was the first County Surveyor, although a rival candidate by the name of Woodward, nominated by the Brooklyn party, appeared to have a majority of the votes.

FIRST ELECTION.

The first election in the county occurred on the 6th day of April, 1846, one of the old dragoon buildings being used for that purpose. The number of votes polled on that occasion was 175, the population of the county being at that time about 500. John Saylor was elected Probate Judge; Thomas Mitchell, Sheriff; James Phillips, Coroner; A. D. Jones, Surveyor; Thomas McMullen, now at Denver, Recorder; Wm. F. Ayers, Treasurer; G. B. Clark, Assessor; Addison Michael, Collector; and Benjamin Saylor, Wm. H. Meacham, and E. W. Fouts, Commissioners. The officers were elected to serve until the next election, which took place the following August.

There is no existing record, as far as we have been able to ascertain, of several elections which occurred after the 6th day of April, 1846. Hours, and even days, have been employed in a patient and persistent search for such records, but without success. The only evidence we have been able to obtain on this subject will be found as incidental matter, under the heads of "County Government," "District Court," and "Election Record." It is to be regretted that the pioneers of our county, or at least the officers of those times, were so remiss and negligent in regard to the public records

At the following August election, Addison Michael, and

Sanford Starr were chosen Justices of the Peace, the first elected in the County.

PRIMITIVE JUSTICE.

Prior to this time all disputes or matters of litigation were decided by the military code. April 28th, 1846, the first civil case wherein the United States was plaintiff, and Campbell Reeves, defendant, was tried before Addison Michael. It was a complaint for a search warrant. The Sheriff made return that neither goods nor defendant were to be found.

FORT DES MOINES.

Fort Des Moines as a town, was laid out June 4th, 1846, by A. D. Jones, surveyor, assisted by Dr. Fagan. A rope, instead of a chain, was employed for the purpose.

After the Dragoons had vacated the military post, which occurred not long after the expiration of the time stipulated by treaty, the barracks which they had tenanted were occupied by the settlers who came pouring in from the East and South. In this way, accommodations were supplied to many families which otherwise would have suffered, for a time at least, for the comforts of a home. As late even as 1853, when the population of the town was about 500, a portion of the people inhabited the garrison buildings. There were cabins, however, which had been hastily constructed for the exigencies of the occasion. There was but one church building in the place, and this belonged to the Methodists.

THE OUTLOOK FROM 1846, TO 1850.

P. M. Casady, one of the most prominent pioneers of the County, has by request, given us certain historic information which we take pleasure in transferring to these pages. Judge Casady, in company with Dr. P. B. Fagan, and W.

D. Frazee, an attorney, entered the County, June 11th, 1846, on which day they took dinner at the residence of Thomas Mitchell, at Apple Grove. Two events worthy of note occurred on that day, one of which was the marriage of Benjamin Bryant and Miss Elvira Birge, and the other was the infliction of a snake bite on the person of Orrin F. Mitchell, son of the landlord at Apple Grove.

It was soon ascertained that one of the three gentlemen stopping for dinner was a physician, whereupon Dr. Fagan on invitation, made up a prescription for the boy, consisting of tobacco and whiskey. The bite was cured; and the boy on whom it was inflicted, lost his life afterwards in the military service of his country.

The brothers Ewing—George Washington, and Washington George—established their trading post at a place not far distant from the site of Shepard & Perrier's Mill. J B. & W. A. Scott had their trading post near the place where now stands the eastern extremity of the Keokuk & Des Moines railroad bridge. The trading post of Phelps & Co. stood at a point near the site of Tuttle's Packing House. At this last post, after its vacation by the Traders, R. W. Sypher sold goods; and at the same place, too, the original Post Office of Raccoon River was kept. The reader is referred here to the article under the head of Post Masters of Des Moines. The several Trading Posts, or Agencies, which have just been reported, were established in 1842–3.

In the Spring of 1846, the garrison buildings were vacated by the soldiers, at which time Col. Tom Baker was made the accredited agent of the Government in leasing the Federal buildings. The immigrants who had settled on the East side of the river, and at other available points, waiting for the auspicious time to come, were now permitted, by paying for it, to occupy the deserted houses. But little time elapsed before all the Government cabins were filled to their utmost capacity by the on-coming volume of immigration.

B. T. Hoxie, in 1845, kept store at the Ewing Agency. In the Spring of 1846, when the prohibition in regard to settling on the west side was removed, he transferred his goods and business to the sutler's cabin on the other side of the river. R. W. Sypher, and other business men, followed his example. In the Fall of 1843, the first Government Annuity in what was afterward called Polk County, was paid to the Indians. Every year thereafter, until the Indians were removed from their reservation, the annuity was paid, bringing to the Fort a large number of visitors to witness the festivities of such an occasion. To the Indians, these were grand gala days, in which their distinctive traits of character were fully exemplified; and the white spectators either looked on, or participated in the varied and fantastic amusements.

It is worthy of historic mention here, as one event in a very eventful year, that in 1846, as a response to local petitions, the Congress of the United States passed a special act, authorizing the agents of Polk County to pre-empt 160 acres of land in legal subdivisions, for the plat of the County Seat. If Fort Des Moines had failed to secure the County Seat, this special act would have been inoperative and void, so far at least as it applied to Fort Des Moines. About 140 of the 160 acres thus pre-empted, were secured for the County Seat.

Among the business men of Fort Des Moines between 1846, and 1850, were the following: W. W. Clapp, Provision Grocer near the junction of the Des Moines and 'Coon rivers; L. D. Winchester & Co., Grocery and Drygoods, near foot of Second street; A. J. Davis, Drygoods, Second and Market; James Campbell, Grocery and Drygoods, corner Second and Vine; Joseph Crews, Liquor Saloon, Second and Market; R. W. Sypher, Drygoods and Grocery, Second street; Lyon & Allen, Drygoods, Second street; C. Good, Drugs, Second and Elm; Benjamin Cof-

feen, Drygoods, Second and Market; Wm. Kraus, Clothing, Second street; B. T. Hoxie, Drygoods, Second and Market.

Cole and Winchester commenced business in 1847, on Second street; and later in the season James Sherman was included among the business men of that locality. Chaplin & Thompson and Campbell & McMullen were also on Second street.

William Lamb has the reputation of building one of the first dwelling houses in the county, near Allen's old packing house; and history gives B. T. Hoxie the credit of keeping the first regular citizens' store. Mr. Hoxie was a good and true man, and was summoned to his reward many years since. His son, H. M. Hoxie, was the popular Clerk of the District Court twenty years ago, and was, during the war, U. S. Marshal for the State. He is now a railroad officer in Texas

The first frame house was built by Addison Michæl in 1847, and the first brick by L. D. Winchester. This latter gentleman, who afterward removed to California, was a relative by marriage of Dr. D. V. Cole, now of this place, and for thirty years closely identified with our progress. To him we have been largely indebted for many of these reminiscences of early times. His cousin, I. J. Cole, who also went to California, was engaged in business on Second street in 1848. The same year, 1848, Alfred M. Lyon and B. F. Allen sold goods in one of the barracks buildings; Allen afterwards built on the corner of Second and Vine and continued to sell goods until he ultimately went into the banking business. For more than a score of years, B. F. Allen maintained a financial reputation of which any man ought to be proud. He grew from year to year in wealth and prosperity, until he was recognized as the richest and most influential banker in Iowa. During the monetary crisis of 1857, when men everywhere in the West who had achieved high business reputations, were swept into

forlorn and hopeless bankruptcy, he stood unshaken amid the storm, not only preserving his own great credit, but furnishing a currency for our local business when all other helps had failed, and at the same time stretching out a strong hand to save men from sinking, who to-day, because of this timely assistance in their hour of peril and threatened ruin are riding on the topmost wave of commercial prosperity.

Alfred M., Jonathan, and Harrison Lyon, were associated in those days with the growth of our city. Two of them are still living among us; but the third, Alfred M. Lyon, as noble a patriot as ever gave his life to his country, went into the battle at Black River Bridge, when his position as sutler demanded no such service, and lost his life while fighting gallantly for the Union. J. M. Griffiths & Co. started a store on Second street, in 1848. One of the first houses in town was built by David Solenberger, July, 1846. The dimensions were 18x20, one story high. A man by the name of Vanatta, had a turning lathe in those times employed in manufacturing chairs and other articles. There was an Apothecary's shop also, dispensing medicines to the public.

Hoyt and L. P. Sherman, Isaac Cooper, and R. L. Tidrick, were at an early period embraced among the business men of Ft. Des Moines.

W. W. Jones came to this county, April 27th, 1847, from Jefferson County, Indiana. He bought a lot on the corner of Third and Vine streets, Fort Des Moines; and he claims that he erected on it the first frame dwelling house in the town. This old building forms a part of the present Monitor House, and the lot on which Mr. Jones' house was built was a part of the original plat of the town, purchased by him of the County authorities.

W. W. Jones states that, in 1848, he gathered blackberries in the vicinity of the site of the Jones House, in East Des Moines.

It is claimed by James Holcomb, that Lewis Whitton built in 1846, in the rear of the barracks on Coon River, the first frame house in Fort Des Moines.

The following list embraces the attorneys of the same period: P. M. Casady, J. M. Perry, Wm. McKay, R. L. Tidrick, Col. Tom Baker, C. Ben. Darwin, W. W. Williamson, A. T. Reynolds, A. D. Jones, Barlow Granger, W. D. Frazee, John Howe, W. H. McHenry, and O. R. Jones.

The physicians were: Drs. F. C. Grimmel, P. B. Fagan, H. H. Saylor, Wesley Kirkbride, D. V. Cole, T. K. Brooks, Henry Grimmel, and Wm. Baker.

The garrison buildings were supplied with brick chimneys, and were whitewashed inside and out. A spectator standing on Capitol Hill, and looking westward over the face of the country, would, in 1847, have estimated the apparent population of Fort Des Moines at 300 or 400. The two rows of cabins, stretching along the rivers, and the straggling buildings in the vicinity, had a picturesque appearance to the beholder.

OUTLOOK FROM 1846 TO 1850—CONTINUED.

Reuben W. Sypher came to Fort Des Moines from Indiana, in September, 1846. His first employment was to sell goods at the trading post of Phelps & Co. The cabin occupied by the sutler while the soldiers were here, was located near where the Rock Island passenger depot now stands. B. T. Hoxie sold goods at this cabin in 1847. He sold out to Benjamin Coffeen; and but a short time afterwards, Mr. Sypher sold goods at the same place.

The old Government Agency, as distinguished from the trading posts of Phelps & Co., J. B. and W. A. Scott, and the Ewings, was situated on Agency Prairie, as mentioned in another place. Here from the year 1842, to the year 1845, Major Beach acted as Indian Agent, recognizing the services of Joseph Smart as Interpreter.

In the Fall of 1847, Mr. Sypher transferred his business

to his new store building on the northeast corner of Second and Vine streets. It will be remembered that at the time specified, the business of the new town was confined almost exclusively to the Barracks, and to the southern part of Second street. When, therefore, Mr. Sypher proposed to build a business house as far north as Vine srreet, which, by the way, was but one square from Market street, the citizens laughed at him for his supposed folly; but time proved the wisdom of his new enterprise.

The office of the Regimental Surgeon was on the East side of Second street, between Market and Elm. After the removal of the Surgeon, the cabin was occupied by Dr. P. B. Fagan. Near this office was the shop of J. M. Thrift, the company's tailor. The barns in which the horses of the dragoons were kept, were built of frame, and located a little west of what is known as Fifth street. One of these barns was subsequently removed to the rear of the Marvin House on Third street, and was used there as a stable. In 1846, W. A. Scott, a whole souled and public spirited man, cultivated a large farm on the prairies south of the Railroad lines, east of the river, within the present city limits.

Between the dates given at the head of this article, the different settlements in the County were popularly known as follows: Apple Grove, in Beaver township; Wallace's Prairie, in Camp township, where Lafayette stands; Trullinger's Grove, in Franklin township; Four Mile Settlement, Mud Creek, Saylor's Grove, and Hopkins' Grove; the last of which is in the Northern part of the County. These settlements were all East of the Des Moines river. On the West were Ayers' Grove, Walnut Creek and McClain's Settlements, Keokuk Prairie, and Linn Grove; the last, though now in Warren, was formerly in Polk County.

There is a little indefiniteness in regard to the recognized boundaries of Keokuk Prairie. From all the information we have received on this subject, we would say that this

noted Prairie, which was the former abode of the dusky warrior and chieftain, Keokuk, embraces all the bottom lands between the Des Moines and North rivers.

Mr. Sypher bought where he now lives, on Fourth street, between Walnut and Court Avenue, in 1847, paying for two lots the enormous sum of thirty dollars—just fifteen dollars a lot!

THE SITUATION IN 1849.

In a conversation with Judge Byron Rice, who came from New York to Fort Des Moines, September, 1849, we obtained some valuable information, which will help the reader to form a more accurate conception of the town and county in the year specified. The Judge informed us that the Government Agency was located on Agency Prairie, a region of country lying between the timber of Capitol Hill and that of Four Mile Creek. The Post indicated was but a short distance from the present residence of Wesley Redhead. By way of distinction, we have called it the Old Agency.

The Trading Posts were all composed of logs, and were still visible in 1849. An old building, just south of the Keokuk & Des Moines railroad bridge over the Des Moines river, comes down to these times as a relic, in part at least, of the old Trading Posts, the log part having been constructed at a very early period.

In 1849, W. A. Scott was living in a one-story double log cabin, just south of Capitol Hill. The hill itself, and in fact nearly the whole face of the country between the hill and the Des Moines river, were covered with forest trees, with but here and there any signs of habitation.

In the same year, a small island, embracing an area of about two acres, was one of the distinctive features of the Des Moines river, extending from where Court Avenue bridge stands, to a point just below the confluence of the

two rivers. Another island, somewhat larger than this, was to be seen about a quarter of a mile further down. Both of these islands were covered by a dense growth of trees, principally cottonwood and elm. On the upper island, a large cottonwood tree, the growth perhaps of a century, was repeatedly struck by lightning during the series of terrific storms in 1851; but shattered though it was, it did not go down with the current for two or three years afterwards. The two islands, being constantly washed by the river, became less and less as time passed away; and after the great freshet of 1851, there was but little left to show that they had ever existed.

Most of the garrison buildings were still remaining in 1849. It has been stated elsewhere that the barracks extended from a point near the confluence of the two rivers —one row of cabins reaching westward to what is now called Fifth street, and the other row extending to a point near the western extremity of what is now called Court Avenue bridge. The two rows lay at right angles with each other, one of which, because of its proximity to Raccoon river, was called 'Coon Row, and the other, on account of its nearness to the Des Moines river, was called the Des Moines Row.

The statement of Mrs Sanford in her history, that Captain Allen had his headquarters in 'Coon Row, near the old Tucker or Collins House, seems to be incorrect. According to Judge Rice, the officers of the two companies had their quarters in Des Moines Row, and the private soldiers, therefore, must have occupied the other. The blacksmith shop was situated just in the rear of the place where the two rows joined. The brick structure which was erected in 1855, by James Campbell, occupies a place just inside of the point of junction to which we have referred.

The area of land lying between the two rows, was occu-

pied by several Government buildings, among which were a hospital, a house for hospital stores, a sutler's establishment, &c. In the rear of the building now known as the Farmers' Home, and formerly as the American House, the old flag staff, a hundred feet high, erected by the soldiers, was yet standing in 1849. For the benefit of the soldiers, a farm of a few acres South of 'Coon, afterward included in a larger farm owned by C. C. Van, was made by order of Captain Allen to produce corn, garden vegetables, &c.

The soldiers' cemetery, still visible at the time indicated, extended from the Northeast corner of Third and Locust street, to a place just east of where the Engine House is located. There were but four or five graves in it. The little daughter of Lieutenant Grier, of whom mention is made in another place, was buried here; and the bereaved father came to Des Moines in 1862, had the remains exhumed, and conveyed them to his Eastern home.

The residence of Judge Burbridge, corner of Walnut and Seventh, was a large, two-story log house, part of which may yet be seen in 1876. The Judge died in office, October 23d, 1851. The F. C. Grimmel house, corner of Sixth and High, is now, though very considerably changed and improved, the abode of his widow. A log house, corner of Ninth and High, was occupied in 1849, by Mr. Holcomb, Sen. L. D. Winchester, the same year, built the one story brick house on the corner of Fourth street and Court Avenue, in which Captain West formerly lived—the site of which is now covered by the Valley City Bank building. At the same time, Judge McKay erected a small brick house on what is now called the Fred Getchell property; also P. M. Cassady built a small frame house on the site of Clapp's Block, corner Fifth and Walnut. Henry Everly erected a frame building on the site of Moore's Opera House, corner of Fourth and Walnut. The site of the present residence of Judge Rice, near Plymouth Church, was as

late as 1856, ornamented with a dense growth of hazel bushes. In fact these bushes constituted the prevailing feature of the landscape on the West side of the Des Moines river, the monotony of which was broken on the surrounding hills by forest trees. Many of these trees had been converted into a Garrison building by the industry of the soldiers.

The principal settlements in the County were as follows: One in Jefferson Township on Beaver Creek, where the McClain's, W. H. McHenry, Walter Oyler, Nathan Andrews, and others resided; another in Walnut Township, and oth ers respectively, in the Northern part of the County, on Skunk and in Madison Township; and others still in Saylor Bottom, on Four Mile Creek, at Apple Grove, on Camp Creek and in Allen Township. The little pocket which lies between the Des Moines river and the Warren County boundary, was in early times the abode of Thomas, *alias* Cumquick, the Ridgeways, and the Parkinsons, all families of bad repute. In 1857, Cumquick was hanged by a mob at Motnezuma, Poweshiek County; and it was not long after this demonstration, before the other ruffians of whom mention is made, were driven away from our County by the advancing tide of a better civilization.

During the administration of Byron Rice, as County Judge, he organized Hardin and Story Counties, the former into two Townships, Kossuth and Washington, and the latter into the Townships of Pierce and Scott, the names of the rival candidates for President in 1852. At that time, 1852, Polk County had jurisdiction, for election and revenue purposes, over all Northern and Western Iowa, except Dallas and Boone Counties.

What was called the new Code at the time, went into effect in 1851, the year in which the first County Judge proper, Burbridge, was elected.

EXTINCTION OF TITLE.

At midnight, October 11th, 1845, the loud report of a gun, which was answered by many others, announced the fact that the rule of barbarism had ceased in this part of the country, and that the reign of civilization had really commenced. At that profound hour of the night when the moon was about to set in the West, leaving the landscapes of primeval nature obscured by darkness, the title which the Red Man had held for untold centuries in the fertile lands of our County, was suddenly and forever extinguished. Scores of torches, improvised for the occasion, blazed through the gloom, and hundreds of settlers, eager to secure the results of their industry, vigilance, and personal daring, wandered hither and thither over the vast prairies, taking active measures the while to establish the rights of property in the unbroken wilderness of the West!

The sharp clang of axes, as they struck into the trees skirting the streams, was heard on many sides; and where these heavy implements were not accessible, the tomahawk of the savage, or the scarcely less civilized knife of the hunter, was employed in carving rude characters on the trunks of trees to indicate the metes and bounds of original claims. It was in this way, using their knives for the purpose, that Jacob Frederic, and Jeremiah Church, assisted by the light of a blazing wigwam, whose tenants had departed, established the landmarks which identified their property. Although half the night had passed away before the introduction of this wierd and extraordinary scene, thousands of acres of choice lands, distributed here and there, were transferred before the morning light to the ownership of men, who were destined in a few years to transform this wild region from its state of nature, to the highest condition of improvement of which it is susceptible.

CLAIM ASSOCIATION.

The early settlers of Polk County, like those of other counties in the State, held the lands which they occupied and improved by what is termed a claim right—a tenure just in itself, and the only one available at the time, but in the sequel, it was often found to be precarious, giving rise to sharp controversies, expensive litigations, and in some instances, even to murder! Prior to the year 1848, the lands here, all of which belonged to the Government, were owned by this right so far as they were occupied. During that and previous years, speculators from the East, anticipating the time when the lands would come into market, had thoroughly explored the country, and made such selections of real estate as would suit them, regardless of the rights of settlers.

In time, the rapacity of speculators, and the selfishness of other men, in regard to claim rights, became so alarming and aggressive, that on the 8th day of April, 1848, a meeting of citizens was held at Fort Des Moines, to take some conclusive action for the defense of the settlers. William H. Meacham was called to the Chair, and L. D. Winchester was chosen Secretary. Dr. T. K. Brooks, and Josiah Myers addressed the meeting in an appropriate manner on the rights of claim-holders; and a committee, composed of Messrs. Winchester, Mitchell, Scott, Sypher, and Saylor, was appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the popular sense on that occasion. We here present them:

1st. *Resolved*, That we will protect all persons, who *do* or *may* hold claims, against the interference of any persons who shall attempt to deprive such claim holders of their claims and improvements by pre-emption or otherwise.

2d. *Resolved*, That we will in all cases discountenance the speculator or other persons, who shall thus attempt any innovations on the homes of the rightful settlers; that we will not hold fellowship with such persons, and, they be regarded as a *nuisance* in the community.

3d. *Resolved*, That no person shall be allowed to pre-empt or purchase from Government any land which shall be held as a claim, unless he obtain the consent of the owner or claimant.

4th. *Resolved*, That the filing of an intention to pre-empt any claim, contrary to the rights of the settler, shall be regarded as an attempt wrongfully to deprive the citizen of his home and claim.

5th. *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed. It shall be their duty to inquire into, and adjust all difficulties and contentions in claim disputes.

6th. *Resolved*, That it be the duty of said committee to notify any person who shall pre-empt (or attempt to do so, by filing his intention) to *leave the vicinity and county*, and that they have authority to enforce a compliance with said notice.

7th. *Resolved*, That we will sustain and uphold said committee in their decisions, and in the discharge of all their duties as defined in the foregoing resolutions.

8th. *Resolved*, That all persons be invited to sign the foregoing resolutions, and that the signers pledge themselves to be governed by the same, and to aid in sustaining the same.

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the following gentlemen were appointed a committee, as ordered by the meeting: Messrs. J. B. Scott, Thomas Mitchell, of Apple Grove; John Saylor, of Saylorville; Dr. P. B. Fagan, and Thomas Henderson.

The following signatures were obtained: Wm. Lower, John Harris, Peter Newcomer, Henry Huntington, Dayton Harris, W. H. Meacham, J. B. Scott, P. B. Fagan, Thomas Mitchell, T. Henderson, T. Crabtree, W. A. Scott, W. Wear, John Myers, T. McCall, J. Thompson, Wm. Bradford, N. Ball, J. Bundrum, Joseph Deford, J. M. Kirkbride, John Saylor, John Hayes, J. H. Finch, N. Reeves, Wm. Cooper, John McMahon, Wm. Hughes, A. S. Dean, P. Wear, E. Keeler, James Anderson, Jerry Church, H. Everly, C. B. Myers, D. L. Jewett, David Norris, Wm. Busick, Jr., Chas. Kurey, R. A. Harban, J. D. McGlothlen, John Bennett, D. S. Cockerham, Benj. Bennett, Jas. T. Thompson, Geo. Knoop,

Asa Fleming, Thomas Gilpin, John Miller, David S. Bowman, Charles Murrow, Robert Hopkins, Joseph Keeney, Jas. Phillips, L. D. Winchester, Benj. Saylor, H. D. Hendricks, T. Campbell, G. Maginnis, J. C. Jones, J. Frederic, R. W. Sypher, Samuel Kellogg, William Garrett, W. F. Ayres, John S. Dean, Jacob Baycus, Solomon Bales, Geo. Dailey, L. Garrett, A. N. Hayes, G. W. Lucy, T. K. Brooks, Jos. Myers, J. Tridle, J. G. Tuttle, B. Perkins, Jacob Winters, D. Haworth, S. W. McCall, Montgomery McCall, A. W. Hobson, B. F. Frederick, Wm. Busick, Sr., E. Compton, John Wildy, J. Harris, H. John Baird, W. B. Binte, George Krysher, C. Stutsman, D. S. Marts, C. S. Evans, Eli Keeler, Geo. Ogilvie, Wm. Kuren, David Miller, James McRoberts, Franklin Nagle.

In the summer of the same year, a meeting, with the same object, was held in Camp Township. A committee was appointed, consisting of C. Leftwich, E. Canfield, L. M. Burk, Thomas Mitchell, Creth Renfrow, and M. McCall. Just before the September land sales, 1848, R. L. Tidrick was appointed claim agent at a meeting of our citizens. In the performance of his duties, he was to represent claim-holders at the land sales in Iowa City. A number of men were placed at his command; and he was instructed to employ all honorable means to secure the rights of the people, whose interests he was serving. A portion of the Centennial address of Hon. C. C. Nourse of this city, is here appended:

"The 'claim laws' were unknown to the statutes of the United States. They originated in the 'eternal fitness of things,' and were enforced, probably, as belonging to that class of natural rights not enumerated in the Constitution, and not impaired or disparaged by its enumeration. * *

As far as practicable the Territorial legislature recognized the validity of these 'claims, upon the public lands, and in 1839 passed an act legalizing their sale and making the transfer a valid consideration to support a promise to pay for the

same. (Acts of 1843, p. 456.) The Supreme Territorial Court held this law to be valid. (See Hill v. Smith, 1st Morris Rep. 70.) The opinion not only contains a decision of the question involved, but also contains much valuable erudition upon that 'spirit of Anglo-Saxon liberty' which the Iowa settlers unquestionably inherited in a direct line of descent from the said 'Anglo-Saxon.' "

W. H. McHenry, who came here in 1848, just in the midst of the great claim excitement, states that the people were at that time "a law unto themselves." The machinery of the Courts had been imperfectly introduced; and Lynch Law often took the place of a more civilized Code. The people enacted what were styled Club laws for the government of society. These laws had special jurisdiction in all cases concerning the rights of claim holders. Each man staked out his claim, and went to work on it, building his cabin and making other improvements.

The Club laws, as Mr. McHenry states, were drafted by Thomas Baker, Mr. Watts, and himself. They provided for the appointment of a committee to settle all disputes as to the ownership of claims and the boundary lines thereof. They also provided for the appointment of a Secretary, "whose duty it should be to make a record of the numbers of the lands belonging to members of the Club." It was further made his duty "to attend the land sales to be held at Iowa City, and bid off the lands for, and in the name of the settlers. The settlers were to attend the sales, as far as practicable, and knock down, and drag out, any person who should attempt to interfere with their Secretary in the purchase of any of their lands."

Mr. Tidrick, as Secretary, and the people faithfully performed their duty in the enforcement of the Club laws. No continuances were allowed; no dilatory pleas were heard; no appeals were granted by Judge Lynch! His judgments were swift and certain!

FLEMING WAR.

As a matter of course, many difficulties of extraordinary character, grew out of those conflicts of interest between the speculator and the settler. In the spring of '49, Asa Fleming held a claim South of Fort Des Moines. B. Perkins, a neighbor, filed an intention to pre-empt the property. It happened in this case, that both of these men were members of the Claim Club; and for this reason, the act of Mr. Perkins was denounced as an atrocious infraction of the principles to which the Club was committed. Mr. Fleming, incensed at this injustice, informed the Claim members of his wrongs, and a crowd soon gathered around him, eager to vindicate his imperiled rights.

Meantime, Mr. Perkins was apprized of his danger, and taking horse, he fled with all possible speed toward the Raccoon Ferry, on which he designed to cross the river to a more healthy latitude. He was followed by a multitude of exasperated citizens, armed with guns and other implements of warfare. He managed to effect his escape, although he was repeatedly shot at; and when he reached the ferry, he was hatless and coatless, and his horse was reeking with perspiration.

Not hearing from his enemies for a few days, Mr. Perkins emerged from his retreat, and had a warrant issued for the arrest of Mr. Fleming, on the charge of assault with intent to kill. The friends of the latter, who were quite numerous, combined together, and proceeding in force to the office of Benjamin Luce, Justice of the Peace, in one of the Dragoon buildings, they rescued their friend who was in custody, and giving him a horse, they escorted him in triumph to his home.

Undismayed by this repulse, Mr. Perkins had his enemy again arrested; but nearly a hundred friends of Mr. Fleming massed together for resistance, and coming to the Rac-

coon Ferry, armed and equipped in military style, they ordered Mr. Scott to take them across. This he refused to do, except on condition that they stacked their arms, and became peaceable subjects of law and order. With this condition they at last reluctantly complied, and they were taken over, entering the town unarmed. Fleming was examined in due form, the charges of Perkins found true, and the prisoner gave bonds for his appearance at the next term of the District Court. The Grand Jury, however, by that time failed to find a bill against Fleming, and Perkins, much against his inclination, had to give Fleming a bond. Thus ended what is called the Fleming War.

In connection with this circumstance, we deem it proper to present another of like character. A man named Holland, temporarily stopping at the Fort, was, by some means, suspected of complicity with Mr. Perkins in his invasion of the rights of Mr. Fleming. The Claim Club, already excited by the late irritating events, banded together with hostile purpose, and proposed to execute vengeance on the culprit, by hanging him immediately. Before the rope was adjusted, Mr. Holland besought his enemies to give him time to make some farewell remarks. This favor being granted, he mounted a box, and made a speech which was so replete with strong reason and moving eloquence, that he at once disarmed his foes, and made them his fast friends. Never was the magnetism of human speech more potent than on this occasion.

EARLY SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.

This Society was organized February 26, 1868. Its first officers were: President, Thomas Mitchell; Recording Secretary, R. L. Tidrick; Corresponding Secretary, Hoyt Sherman; Treasurer, B. F. Allen. The first meeting was held in the Council Rooms, and twenty-five persons were present. Isaac Cooper was temporary Chairman, and Peter Myers

was temporary Secretary. The Committee to draft Constitution and By-Laws was composed of Demas Robinson, J. A. Nash, J. M. Griffiths, G. W. Cleveland, and Hoyt Sherman. Persons qualified to be Early Settlers at this meeting, dated their residence back to 1856, or prior to that time.

One of the first acts of this Society, at this meeting, was to pass suitable resolutions in memory of Dr. T. K. Brooks, whose death was then a recent occurrence. Hon. G. G. Wright, and Rev. J. A. Nash, were appointed a committee to report a biographical sketch of the Doctor at the next meeting, March 2d, 1868.

DR. T. K. BROOKS.

This gentleman, whose name figures so prominently in our annals, was born in Montpelier, Vermont, May 4, 1811. At the age of 24, he removed to New Lisbon, Columbiana county, Ohio, and became a student of medicine in the office of Dr. George McCook. He graduated at Starling Medical College, Columbus, and afterwards received a Diploma from the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He practiced medicine five years at Terre Haute, Indiana, where he married Miss Phœbe Barnes, Nov. 2d, 1843.

He removed to Iowa in September, 1845, and pursued his profession for five years, during which time he frequently manifested the kindness and benevolence of his nature, and his eminent skill as a physician. From 1845 until the period of his death, in 1868, he was often called, by appointment, or by the suffrages of his fellow-citizens, to fill positions of trust and importance; and he always acquitted himself in these capacities in a manner which reflected honor on himself, and substantial good on his fellow-men. He was a Presbyterian, and a Mason. No pioneer who has passed from us through the gates of death, has left the fragrance of a better or brighter memory as a legacy to sorrowing friends.

FIRST MEMBERS OF E. S. A.

At the second meeting of the Early Settlers' Association, March 2d, 1868, the following persons gave in their names as members: W. W. Williamson, Isaac Cooper, J. M. Griffiths, J. A. Nash, H. H. Griffiths, P. M. Casady, David Norris, Frank Nagle, Thomas Boyd, J. S. Cook, John Hays, R. L. Tidrick, C. S. Spofford, S. F. Spofford, Madison Young, R. W. Sypher, Ezra Rathburn, Wm. Baker, Thomas McMullen, W. A. Galbraith, G. W. Cleveland, Wm. De-Ford, Hoyt Sherman, Mrs. M. R. Sypher, J. B. Bausman, Peter Myers, H. H. Saylor, R. P. Peters, Mrs. S. F. Spofford, Thomas Mitchell, Thompson Bird, and J. C. Jordan.

THE DEAD OF E. S. A.

The following list includes the names of Early Settlers, so far as the records of the Association give information on this subject: T. K. Brooks, Walter Oyler, Thompson Bird, John Barlow, J. W. Laird, Benjamin Bryant, E. Sanford, Stewart Goodrell, Rev. Sanford Haines, J. W. Jones, C. Stutzman, Lewis Jones, Harry Stephenson, Madison Young, J. S. Cook (killed by falling from a stage in Colorado), Charles S. Spofford, Maria J. Hardin, M. E. Nordyke, John S. Dean, E. M. Bolton, John L. Smith, John McClain, T. W. Carpenter, H. H. Saylor, Jesse S. Dicks, and Alexander Bowers.

It was our good fortune to become personally acquainted with a large majority of the settlers whose names have just been given, and who have gone from among us to the silence and repose of the grave. No citizen of Des Moines was more widely known in his time than Benjamin Bryant, to whom reference is made in other places. We have had occasion elsewhere to speak of Rev. Thompson Bird, in connection with the rise and progress of the Presbyterian Church, and in reference, also, to many subjects of historic

interest, with which his name has become identified. He died January 4th, 1869, having obtained recognition among us as a gentleman of pleasing and genial manners, and as a Christian minister of fine attainments and great usefulness.

Rev. Sanford Haines, who died January 11th, 1871, was extensively known through all this region of country, as a talented and popular Presiding Elder in the M. E. Church. Lewis Jones, who died April 18th, 1875, once taught school in Brown county, Ohio, and one of his pupils was Hiram S. Grant, afterward the celebrated Ulyses S. Grant, now President of the United States. The writer of this history was attending the same school at the time.

Madison Young, a gentleman of unaffected goodness and purity of character, died October 21st, 1873, at Cincinnati.

J. W. Jones died December 2d, 1873. Charles S. Spofford, son of Ex-Mayor S. F. Spofford, and a young man well known and greatly esteemed by a large number of friends, died January 6th, 1872. James Sherman, brother of Hoyt and L. P. Sherman of this place, and a gentleman of great popularity, died at Cincinnati during the war. He was a brother also of Gen. W. T. Sherman. John S. Dean, a fine old patriarch, full of years and honors, died December 21st, 1872.

FIRST FESTIVAL.

The first festival of the Early Settlers Association was held in Capitol Square, October 12, 1868, Hon. Thos. Mitchell in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. De Forest; music by Collard's Brass Band, and an oration by Rev. J. A. Nash.

J. M. Thrift, one of the first fathers of the county, if not the first, read a paper full of interesting reminiscences of the olden times. Four hundred early settlers were present on the occasion; and refreshments in abundance, improvised in pic-nic style, were spread before the waiting crowd.

On the 6th of January, 1869, the ceremonies connected with the burial of Rev. Thompson Bird, were directed by the early settlers. Rev. J. A. Nash delivered the funeral discourse.

The last recorded festival of the E. S. Association, occurred August 30, 1873, on the grounds of the Driving Park Association. The day was excessively warm, the mercury standing at 102 degrees in the shade. The attendance was larger than usual, and the exercises were very interesting.

At this meeting the following officers were chosen: President, Thomas Mitchell; Vice Presidents, Isaac Cooper, John Hays, Frank Nagle, H. H. Saylor, D. V. Cole, John D. McGlothlen, J. C. Jordan, Benjamin F. Frederick, Newton Lamb, and John McClain; Recording Secretary, R. L. Tidrick; Corresponding Secretary, Hoyt Sherman; Treasurer, B. F. Allen.

HISTORIC ITEMS.

We find in the records of the E. S. Association that A. B. Fuller and P. H. Buzzard, made the first plow and wagon in the county. This occurred in 1847. We find also that the first drayman in Fort Des Moines was Michæl Kennedy, who came here in 1855. The first steam power was employed by C. C. Van, who came here in 1848. The first steam power applied in journalism, was by John Teesdale, on *The Register*, in 1859.

The first stove store in the town was kept by Jesse S. Dicks, who came in 1849. Gen. N. B. Baker, writing in the records of the E. S. A., in his own characteristic style, remarks that he has looked over ten States, and finds Iowa the best of all.

Hoyt Sherman, jr., born in 1851, and C. W. Garrett, born in 1848, are both natives of Polk county.

The first power press in printing a newspaper, was used

by T. H. Sypherd on the *Citizen*, in 1856. This press was of the Guernsey style, run by hand.

The first piano in Fort Des Moines was owned by Captain F. R. West. It was made to discourse sweet music on the occasion of the marriage of B. F. Allen, in 1854, and Miss Thusa West, daughter of the Captain.

The first ice dealer in town was E. R. Clapp; and the second, George K. Cranston, who, with his brother Charles, came from Rhode Island. The building near the river, which they used as an ice house in 1856, is now used for the same purpose by Grefe & Sons.

OLD SETTLERS DEATH.

(*From the Iowa State Register.*)

Died, in Franklin township, Polk county, September 23d, Sarah Ann Trullinger, wife of Eli Trullinger, aged 58 years. Mrs. Trullinger was born in Hamilton county, Ohio; removed to Indiana, and was married to Eli Trullinger in September, 1837. They came to Iowa in the year 1843, and have resided in Franklin township since 1845. Mrs. T. has been a member of the Christian Church about fifteen years, and has ever exemplified her profession by a consistent life. Her sickness was of a very short duration, and thus suddenly, family and friends are bereft of her society and neighborly companionship.

ANOTHER DEATH.

Died—September 9, 1876, A. Fouts, who came to Camp township, Polk county, in the year 1849, and lived there a good and quiet citizen until the year 1870, when he moved to Richardson county, Nebraska, where he died in his 78th year. He leaves a wife and children and many warm friends to mourn his death.

THE UNRECORDED DEAD.

Among the dead of early settlers, of whom no mention is made in the records, are Mrs. C. M. Burt, Wm. Rickey, Wm. Barnes, Geo. M. Swan, formerly an editor in Columbus, Ohio; Safford Savery, John Bender, Jacob Krysher, Thos. Baber, William Butler, Lambert Sternberg, Jas. McRoberts, Conrad Youngerman, Frank Butler, D. B. Spaulding, W. Wheelhouse, George and Jacob Hauser, Mrs. Richard Crystal; Jacob, George and William Van Dorn; Judge John H. Gray, George and Jacob Marts, Adolphus and Josiah Hopkins, John Messersmith, George Currans, Father Crabtree, Jeremiah Barlow, Benjamin Hunt, P. G. Miller, Samuel Hays, Dr. J. C. Bennett, Hiram Smith, Judge Burbridge, John Kellison, J. M. Montgomery, Lewis Barlow, Edward Martin, Mrs. Kunckols, Drs. F. C. and Henry Grimmel, Mrs. Jonathan Lyon.

The last list given was not designed to include the dead of the war, whose names are found elsewhere. In presenting these names, we have nothing to assist us but our own memory.

Alexander Bowers came to Fort Des Moines from Ross county, Ohio, in 1848. He was Deputy U. S. Marshal during the war. He was a gentleman of great probity and usefulness, leaving at his death an independent property to his widow and adopted daughter.

Frank Butler, an exemplary and excellent citizen, fell dead in the streets of Des Moines nearly two years ago, from disease of the heart.

John L. Smith, a good old pioneer, was killed near Stuart by falling from a carriage when the horses were running away. He lingered in great agony several hours after the accident.

G. M. Swan, an eccentric genius, well known in the county, died in Des Moines, December, 1868.

John McWilliams, a good, genial soul as ever lived, died in Detroit, Michigan.

Of early settlers, none were better known than Drs. Frank C. and Henry Grimmel. They were both learned in their profession, and enjoyed a merited popularity. Dr. Henry established on Walnut street, a drug store in a little brick building, which in 1857 fell into ruins.

John H. Gray, Judge of the District Court from 1858 until 1865, died October 8th, in the latter year. He was an unaffected Christian, a talented man, and a good Judge. He was a leading member of the M. E. Church; and was succeeded in office by Hon. C. C. Nourse, appointed by Gov. Stone.

ANCIENT DOCUMENTS.

To gratify the antiquarian in history, we take pleasure in subjoining exact copies of several old documents which have been received from the Old Settlers' Association, as follows:

TERRITORY OF IOWA, }
POLK COUNTY. }

I hereby certify that at an election held on the 3d day of August, 1846, in the county aforesaid, Thomas Mitchell was duly elected Sheriff in and for Polk county aforesaid, for two years from the first Monday in August, 1846.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, with the Seal of the Board of Commissioners hereto affixed, at Fort Des Moines, this 8th day of August, 1846.

WILLIAM McKAY,
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners.

TERRITORY OF IOWA, }
POLK COUNTY. }

I, Thomas Mitchell, of said County, do solemnly swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States,

and that I will faithfully execute the office of Sheriff, in and for the County of Polk in said Territory.

THOMAS MITCHELL.

I, Perry L. Crossman do testify the oath aforesaid was taken and subscribed before me this seventh day of April, A. D. 1846.

P. L. CROSSMAN,
Clerk of the District Court in and for said County.

TERRITORY OF IOWA, }
POLK COUNTY, }

Be it remembered that Perry L. Crossman, Clerk of the District Court, and *ex-officio* Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Polk in said Territory, do hereby certify that Thomas Mitchell of said County has been duly (on the first Monday in the month of April, A. D. 1846,) elected and qualified as Sheriff in and for said County, until the first Monday in the month of August next and until his successor is elected and qualified

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the temporary seal of said Court at Fort Des Moines in said County, this Seventh day of April, A. D. 1846.

P. L. CROSSMAN, *Clerk.*

TERRITORY OF IOWA, }
POLK COUNTY. }

To the Sheriff of said County:—The following is a statement of the proportion of jurors to which each precinct or place of voting is entitled to in said County. To-wit: The number of jurors apportioned to the precinct or place of voting at the house of Thomas Mitchell, on Camp Creek in said County, is thirty-six. The number of jurors, apportioned to the precinct or place of voting, at the house of John D. Parmalee, in the neighborhood of the Three Rivers, in said County, is fifty-six, and the number of jurors, appor-

tioned to the precinct or place of voting at Fort Des Moines in said County, is fifty-eight.

Done at Fort Des Moines, this fifteenth day of April, A. D. 1846.

WILLIAM McKAY,
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners.

In the matter of the joint purchase of the East half of the North-west fourth of 9, T. 78, R. 24, on which is laid out the Fagan addition to the town of Fort Des Moines, in Polk County, Iowa, the purchase money of which was eight hundred and twenty-five dollars, ($825)—the parties thereto, Robertson & Holland of the one part, and Peirce B. Fagan, of the other part, have this day settled up all matters and find that Robertson & Holland have paid four hundred and twelve dollars and fifty cents, the one half of the purchase money; and the said Peirce B. Fagan, four hundred and twelve dollars and fifty cents, the other half, to Mrs. Ayres for whom the same had been purchased.

Fort Des Moines, January 18th, 1849.

ROBERTSON & HOLLAND.
PEIRCE B. FAGAN.

Fort Des Moines, March 16, 1847.

Henry Burge, Esq.

Sir:—There will be elected at our next election—A State Officer, styled Superintendent of Public Instruction, a District Officer, styled District Judge; and such County and Township Officers as are mentioned in the advertisement.

Each Township requires three sets of Poll Books. Two Poll Books make a set. When a person votes for, State, District, and County and Township Officers, his name should be written in all the Poll Books. But if he votes for only one or the other, that is, for State, or District, or County and Township Officers, his name should be written on only one set of the Poll Books.

Three Poll Books must be returned to the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners, and three kept by one of the Judges or Clerks of election.

Take care to return one Poll Book, containing the votes for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

One containing the votes for Judge; and one containing the votes for County and Township Officers.

We hope the Democrats will play the Whigs a strong game, and show that we have a clear majority in this county. It is said, that the Democratic candidate for Judge is the best lawyer in the State.

LEWIS WHITTEN.

THE TOWNSHIPS.

The reader will observe that the previous pages of this work are devoted more especially to a consideration of Fort Des Moines and its immediate surroundings. Here were the first settlements made, and to this point, therefore, the attention of the historian has been first directed.

The Townships of Des Moines, Lee, and Valley, have been considered together for historical purposes, while the other Townships, except those most recently created, which have no distinctive history of themselves, are arranged alphabetically.

TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONS.

The County was originally divided—February 2d, 1847—into four Townships, viz: Des Moines, Madison, Camp, and Skunk. Allen, Four Mile, and Saylor, were organized January 4th, 1848. Jackson Township was organized June 16th, 1859; but it was vacated, and restored to Madison Township, July 12th, same year. A portion of Saylor was attached to Des Moines Township, October 3d, 1849. Beaver was organized from parts of Skunk and Camp Townships, January 9th, 1850; Delaware, October 9th, 1850; Jef-

ferson, January 2d, 1851; Elkhart,————1851. Washington and Franklin were organized March 6th, 1856; Lee, September 28th, 1857; Douglas, September 6th, 1858. A portion of Camp was added to Four Mile, September 21st, 1858; and the same date a part of Four Mile was attached to Lee. Bloomfield was organized September 20th, 1858. Walnut Township was organized from portions of Jefferson and Des Moines, January 7th, 1860. It was reorganized, with certain changes, March 26th, 1860; and October 1st, 1860, a portion of this Township was added to Jefferson, leaving the boundaries of both Townships as they now exist. Valley Township was organized March 26th, 1860; and Grant, from a portion of Lee, September 7th, 1870. Saylor reorganized, Crocker and Lincoln were constituted of parts of Madison, Lee, and the original Saylor Township, December 26th, 1870. Skunk, one of the original Townships, was absorbed by Washington, Elkhart, and Franklin.

We had intended to present here the boundaries of the different Townships, as they now exist, but this would require more space than we have to spare.

ALLEN TOWNSHIP.

This Township is located in the southwestern part of the County, and is a part of Township 78, Range 23. The surface is mostly prairie, and undulating. The greater part of the land is under improvement. Coal is found here in large quantities. This Township, which was divided in 1853, by the boundary line which separates Polk County from Warren, was first settled in 1844, by G. B. Clark, on the north, on Polk County side. As a consideration for building a bridge over North River, on the line of the old trail, which was afterwards converted into what was called the Fort Des Moines and Knoxville State Road, Mr. Clark was permitted by Captain Allen, for whom the Township

was named, to make the claim on which he settled. Elias Compton, Mr. Kunckols, and Joseph Williams, in 1845 took up their residence on Keokuk Prairie. James Davis constructed his cabin, and split the first rails in that part of the country.

The village of Avon was laid out by Charles Keeney, August 1st, 1856, and for a time it had quite a rapid growth, situated, as it was, on the line of the State Road, to which we have referred. In 1859, it had an accession of twenty houses, and appeared to be on the full tide of prosperity. A large hotel, several stores, and a church building, belonging to the United Brethren, were among the improvements of that year. Of the early villagers, we mention Stephen Shelton, Dr. Myrick, and Dr. J. W. Bishop. Jonathan Keeney kept store, and Eliza Kenworthy, afterwards Mrs. Gaddis, taught the first school in town. The nearness of Avon to Des Moines, and its remoteness from the station on the I. & W. R. R., together with other causes, have prevented it from growing with much rapidity in these later times. Still, as the only village in Allen Township, supported by a fertile country, abounding in many resources, it has strong attractions.

It will be remembered that the south half of the original Township, belonging now to Warren, was for a time the property of Polk County; and as such, its early history is identified with ours. Besides the settlers already mentioned it is proper to note the name of John Bender, a hospitable farmer, one of whose daughters was wedded to John D McGlothlen, another to Levi Krysher, Esq., and still another to Daniel Hiskey, a merchant of Monroe, Jasper county. Rev. James Fleming and his sons, Asa, a school teacher William and Elijah, lived in this part of the County. Thomas Gooch, Benjamin, Isaac, Solomon, and Daniel Perkins, Daniel Moore, and Matthew Spurlock, Esq., settled here in 1847.

Near Avon station, William Buzick laid out the town of Circleville, in 1848, but it is now known only in tradition. In 1846, Jeremiah Church, a peripatetic city builder, improvised the village of Dudley, on the Des Moines, one mile below the mouth of North river. At first it grew rapidly, and bade fair to give an honorable immortality, to its founder, but during the great freshet of 1851, when it rained, according to the testimony of Mr. Church, forty days and forty nights, the village with all its present and prospective importance went down the river on a voyage to the Gulf. Mr. Church greatly disgusted, retired two miles to the interior, and started the town of Carlisle, which is to-day one of the flourishing villages of Warren County.

There were three villages started by Mr. Church, viz.: Jericho, Dudley, and Carlisle, the last of which proved to be a success. The others went down to their graves, "unwept, unhonored, and unsung."

The death of Mrs. Kunckols in 1846, was the first event of the kind in the Township. The Kunckols family had been living on the claim afterward owned by Mr. McGlothlen. Their cabin was constructed of poles; and the earth itself constituted the greater part of the floor. Here, with these cheerless surroundings, the wife and mother died, leaving several children to realize the bitterness of their bereavement.

The marriage of Jackson Shoemaker to Miss Compton, was the first incident of this nature in this part of the county.

Rev. C. B. Jones, of the United Brethren Church, was one of the pioneer preachers; and among the worshipers of his congregation, were William McMahan and family, who settled here in 1846.

The Avon Cemetery was handsomely laid out in 1856, displaying fine taste on the part of those who had the supervision of it.

John D. McGlothlen, member of the Board of Commissioners in 1848, came to the County, July, 1846. The farm on which he settled had been owned by G. B. Clark, a pioneer who received a permit from the Government in 1844, to make a claim on Keokuk Prairie. The settlers cotemporary with Mr. McGlothlen, in Allen Township, were G. B. Scott, Elias and William Compton. G. B. Clark and James Davis preceded Mr. M. Avon Station is included within the limits of Mr. McGlothlen's farm.

The first school teacher in Allen Township was Thomas McClelland, who employed, for school purposes, an old log building belonging to Mr. McGlothlen. This was in 1849. The first school house was a frame building, one half mile east of what is now Avon Station, erected in 1854. A Methodist society was organized in 1847, meeting at different houses in the neighborhood. Revs. Ezra Rathburn and James Fleming were among the earliest Methodist preachers. The Baptists organized in 1848, with Revs. Keeney and J. A. Nash as occasional preachers, the latter, however, not until 1851.

Keokuk, the Chief, had two residences, a short distance north of what is now Avon Station, one of which, in the timber, was his winter, and the other, on the prairie, was his summer residence. The tepes, or wigwams, of his encampment, were visible in 1846.

Lewis Powell built, in 1849, a log house on the site of the village plat laid out by William Buzick, and named Circleville.

Jeremiah Church, after building half a hundred towns in different parts of the country, died two years ago, at the residence of his son-in-law, Dr. Hull, at Carlisle, Warren county. He was about eighty years of age at the time of his death.

Since writing the above, we have acquired some additional information in regard to this Township. We subjoin

the following names of settlers who came to this region between 1846 and 1850, and who have not hitherto been mentioned: Jacob Krysher, and his sons George and Levi; John Watts, John Watson, J. T. Wright, James P. Deaton, Jacob Bender, Thomas Baber, Wm. Butler, Robert Gaddis, William Lowry, Jonathan Keeney, and James McRoberts. Mr. McRoberts had been one of Capt. Allen's soldiers, before making his claim on Keokuk Prairie Robert Gaddis was the first teacher in the school house erected near Avon Station. George Krysher built a steam saw-mill in Avon. A. S. Rice and Austin Warnock came here in 1852. J. P. Hendrix and Nelson Ball were early settlers near Des Moines, probably in this Township.

John D. McGlothlen paid four hundred dollars for his claim. His farm consists of 873 acres, and is in a fine state of improvement. Keokuk Prairie, once the abode of the red man, is ornamented from one end to the other by orchards, fields, well stored barns, and splendid residences.

BEAVER TOWNSHIP.

(Township 79, Range 22.) Camp Creek is in the eastern part, and Mud Creek in the western. The surface is rolling, and extensive improvements are visible in every part.

This township has a very interesting history. One of the first, as well as one of the most prominent, settlers of the county was Thomas Mitchell, who came from Fairfield, Iowa, in 1844, and settled at Apple Grove. His house, composed of green logs in the ancient style of double cabins, and ornamented with a puncheon floor, was built in the grove near Camp Creek, north of the Iowa City road. Wild apples were so plentiful in the vicinity, as to suggest a name for this primitive residence. Mr. Mitchell was permitted by the government to make his claim as a compensation for the erection of a bridge over Camp Creek, on the road to Keokuk. The supplies for the garrison were

brought from that place, and this improvement, therefore, was a prime necessity. For the benefit of travelers, many of whom were seeking homes in the West, the cabin of Mr. Mitchell was converted into a public house. The property was ultimately sold to Mr. Keith, and subsequently it went into the hands of Lambert Sternberg.

In 1846, L. M. Burke settled here, as also did Jos. Slaughter, the latter about a mile from Skunk, or Chicaqua river. Northward, on Clear river, Joseph Kintz became a settler. These families, along with the residents at Tool's Point, were for a long time the only neighbors of Mr. Mitchell. Rev. Mr. Pardoe, an itinerant minister, preached at Apple Grove the first sermon in the county, to a small company of hearers. In 1857, Mr. Mitchell laid out the village of Mitchelltown, on the road leading from Newton to Des Moines. At one time it had twelve houses, two hotels, and a high school building; but the hard times, combined with other causes, retarded its development, and it died a premature death.

Ten years later, June 2d, 1867, the same energetic proprietor started the village of Mitchellville, on the line of the Rock Island Railroad. The improvements here have been rapid and permanent; and Mitchellville, with its thousand inhabitants, and its popular institution of learning, is a credit to the county, as well as to the enterprising gentleman who founded it.

Among the early settlers of Mitchellville were E. J. Valentine, merchant; A. J. Grismer, hotel; Mayor Cram, Geo. D. Moore, and Jones Brothers, who erected a brick block.

South of Mitchellville, three-quarters of a mile, is the station of Nobleton, on the K. & D. M. R. R. Here some improvements have been made, and a grain trade is carried on quite extensively.

In 1856, P. H. Humphreys bought the farm of Mr. Mitchell about a mile west of the old stand, on the stage road.

Here the former gentleman kept the Stage Station, and the Postoffice, the latter of which was employed as a distributing office in a circumscribed way. The old Apple Grove P. O. was extinguished by the new Mitchellville, and to this place Mr. Humphreys retired, establishing there a popular hotel.

MITCHELL SEMINARY.

This is the name of a thriving young academic institution, located in the incorporated town of Mitchellville. It was named in honor of Hon. Thomas Mitchell, whose liberal donation of lots and lands formed the inception of the enterprise. It is controlled by a Board of Trustees, appointed by the Iowa Universalist Convention, but the school is non-sectarian in its management. The corner stone of the very fine edifice was laid on the 4th day of July, 1872, and the building was completed, and the school opened, in September, 1873. The building is of the composite order of architecture, and presents a very imposing appearance. It is situated on a slight elevation between the Rock Island and Keokuk & Des Moines Railroads, which at this point are about three quarters of a mile apart. The building is three stories high, with mansard tower, and it cost the moderate sum of $21,500. The present value of the school property is about $40,000. It has been, for the past two years, entirely self-sustaining, without income from endowment.

The following constitute the present Board of Trustees: Hon. Thomas Mitchell, President; Rev. J. R. Sage, Secretary; Hon. B. F. Gue, Des Moines, Treasurer; Edwin Conger, Dexter; R. A. Sankey, Newton; Hon. M. L. Edwards and Edwin Van Cise, Mt. Pleasant; F. J. Upton, Cedar Rapids; and Rev. B. F. Snook, Webster City. The school is under the charge of Rev. J. R. Sage as Principal,

and Mrs. E. C. Sage, Preceptress, assisted by an efficient corps of teachers.

The institution is an ornament to the town and county in which it is located, and deserving of the liberal patronage of our citizens.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

Contains all of Township 78, Range 24, Township 78, Range 25, south of the Des Moines and Raccoon rivers, except the south limits of the city. In 1847, Owen Edgarton erected his cabin on the Indianola road; at an early day, 1849, James Smith, the celebrated nurseryman, left Delaware Township, and settled in Bloomfield. Among old residents, it is proper to name Messrs. Chiles, H. C. Hargis Smith Means, who lived in Hargis' barn one winter, Phillips, Blye, George Bentley, Elijah Jones, and Miss Foreman, who taught the first school. Mr. Bentley was the first Magistrate. Rev. V. P. Fink, of the M. E. Church, now of this city, preached here in early times.

This Township occupies an important place in the County, and abounds in natural resources. Its proximity to the city, together with its other advantages, make it a very desirable place of residence. Coal is abundant, and measures have been instituted, some of which have already been very successful, to bring up from the bosom of the earth its vast mineral treasures.

The village of Sevastopol, about one mile from the Court House, was laid out by James Sherman, May 6th, 1862. It is situated in the midst of an extensive coal mining region; and it has steadily improved until at this time it contains a population of about three hundred, with all the adjuncts of a flourishing village. The Soap and Candle Factory of R. F. Young, controlling a large business, is located here; and the brewery of Mr. Munzenmeier, which occupies a position of prominence in this department of business, is situated within the limits of the same town.

One of the first weddings in the Township was that of Rev. Diltz and Miss Hargis. This happy event was followed in a year or two by the death of the bride. A little child, Perry Davis, died in 1854. The Blye school house was one of the first erected in the Township. In the same neighborhood the Methodists erected a frame church building, called Bloomfield Chapel, to accommodate a class which had been organized some time before.

In 1854, McCormick's reapers, and newly modeled threshing machines, began to be introduced here, as well as in other parts of the County, taking the place of the ancient order of things.

M. L. Devin, a resident of Des Moines twenty years ago, has a large, well cultivated farm in this Township. He pays much attention to the raising of thoroughbred stock. Many wealthy farmers besides him, are living here, who, in a few years, have made a wonderful change in the face of the landscape.

Samuel Gray, and Samuel Bell, the former of whom was once County Treasurer, and the latter our first Superintendent of Schools, were both early settlers of Bloomfield. Mrs. M. A. Brechbill, who once had a store in an old Government building on the site now occupied by Keyes, Thompson & Reeves' wholesale establishment, has been a resident of this Township several years. Her farm, containing a section of land, was a bare prairie in 1861. It is now all under cultivation, and includes within its limits, a fine orchard of 2,000 bearing apple trees.

CAMP TOWNSHIP.

Contains Township 78, Range 22, and northeast part of 77, 22. This is a densely settled township, with a generous distribution of timber and rolling prairie. Camp and Mud creeks, and the Des Moines river, are its principal streams. Coal is found along its water courses.

Patrick Kelly came here in 1848, and the Garrets, for whom an entire community is named, settled in 1850. About the same time, Wm. Sweeney established his home. The Plummers also found homes in the Garret neighborhood. James Stewart, George N. Stewart, and Elijah Canfield came in 1846, the latter Stewart starting a store sometime afterward; and in 1847, J. M. Montgomery, Rev. Mr. Russell, David Johnson, Mr. Woodward, Montgomery McCall, Abel Fouts, Joseph Langdon, L. M. Burke, Mr. Robinson, and Miss Lavinia Hendricks belonged to the list of arrivals. Miss Hendricks was united in marriage to Mr. Woodward, at James Stewart's residence, Esq. Abel Fouts officiating. J. B. Hempstead, Creth Renfrow, and a Mr. Fleming, were accessions to the Stewart settlement in 1847.

In 1849, Dr. A. Y. Hull advertised lots for sale in the village of Lafayette. This place had some notoriety in 1848, and the energy of its new proprietor, Dr. Hull, an eminent physician by the way, and a good lawyer, stimulated its growth wonderfully. The Doctor's father, John Hull, also settled here.

On the 4th day of July, 1850, an important celebration occurred in this village, in which many of the people participated.

Adelphi is remembered also as one of the villages of Camp Township, laid out April 6th, 1857; but this place, as well as Lafayette, has had no railroad line to give strength and efficiency to its growth.

One of the first Justices of the Peace in this part of the country, was James N. Stewart, elected in 1847. Elijah Canfield erected, south of Burk's Grove, a log cabin, sixteen feet square, with a stick chimney and a fireplace composed of a few stones. In the winter of 1846–7 a log school house was built in the neighborhood. One day, when the children of Mr. Canfield were proceeding to school, they were badly frightened by a huge timber wolf, two feet and

a half in height, which had been for some time a pest and a terror to the community. The children escaped unharmed; and a few nights later, when the brute made his appearance in the vicinity of Mr. Canfield's pig-pen, the old pioneer grasped his shot-gun, and fired at the bold intruder. The wolf fell dead. Rattlesnakes infested this region in those times; and skunks, rabbits, and prairie wolves abounded. In the fall of 1846, fever and ague prevailed most alarmingly, and the family of Mr. Canfield became victims of this disease. His little daughter Angeline, and a boarder in the family named Lathrop, died. In the midst of this general sickness, Mr. Canfield was compelled from necessity to go sixty miles to mill. While absent, he was himself prostrated for a time by the epidemic. His protracted absence greatly alarmed the family, who, on account of their own sickness, were unable to care for the cows and other stock on the farm. After a time, however, Mr. Canfield returned, showing the result of his sharp experiences in his bilious face and wasted figure.

The Lower Des Moines Trail, as it was called in those days, led through Red Rock, and through Stewart Settlement in Camp Township, to Fort Des Moines. A Christian Church was organized in Stewart Settlement, by Rev. Russell. This gentleman preached the funeral sermon of the pioneer, J. M. Montgomery. The first death at the Settlement occurred in the family of Mr. Woodward, his little child being the victim. Edward Martin, the Des Moines River ferryman, noticed elsewhere, died in 1850.

Dances were frequent at the residence of Mr. Robinson, at which Jerry Church, the city builder, was wont to exercise the virtues of his violin, while the young people, and sometimes the old ones, tripped the light fantastic toe! *Per contra*, in the spring of 1848, a class of Methodists, eight in number, was organized in Mr. Canfield's neighborhood, of which that gentleman was chosen leader. Rev. Ezra Rath-

burn preached occasionally, and much good was accomplished in the interest of Christianity.

The pioneer, L. M. Burke, was a poet and a genius. The diary which he kept in 1848, was a lively commentary on the scarcity of money in those times, and the general poverty and destitution of the people. Teaming was a common occupation, but it was not fruitful of financial results. J. J. McCall contracted with Mr. Ballard, in 1846, to haul his corn to Fort Des Moines, agreeing to take each alternate load as a compensation.

The residences of John Q. Deacon, and other families, now living in Jasper County, were in former times, although there has been no removal by these persons, citizens of Camp township. The change of the townships on the southern line of the County in 1853, produced this result. Calvin Brockett, William Wallace, and a man named Linn, were settlers here in 1846.

Lafayette was a lively village in 1849 and 1850, stimulated as it was by the arrival of Dr. Hull and his relatives. Parties were frequent; and the singing school taught by a Mr. Hatch from Warren County, was a distinguishing feature. In the latter year, the approach of a steamer to that place, on its way up to Fort Des Moines, caused quite a sensation, the villagers hurrying in crowds, to the river to witness the wonderful spectacle.

The first wedding in the village was that of Peter Ridgeway and Miss Hamlin. The first birth was in the family of Jonathan Hammer. The babe was named Maggie Hull. The first death occurred in the family of Peter Ridgeway. His child expired when still in its babyhood.

DELAWARE TOWNSHIP

Contains Township 79, Range 23. This is a good township, well watered and timbered, the timber being found in

the vicinty of Four Mile Creek, which is the principal stream.

Riley Thornton came to this section in 1846, settling on a branch of the Four Mile, followed soon after by William Haworth, Isaac Thornton, William James, and C. Brazelton. Rev. Mr. Corey, the pioneer of Corey's Grove, preached here in 1849. The first death was that of a little child of Mr. Haworth. The first wedding united Clay Van Doren to a daughter of Mr. James. Stephen Harvey came here in 1851. Anthony, and his son Levi Yant, came soon after, living in a cabin of Mr. Harvey. Among those who came here as pioneers at this time and subsequently, were Rev. Demas Robinson, John Harlen, I. Hand, B. H. Woodrow, John H. and Benjamin Robison, and Mr. Florey, a Dunkard minister.

The first school in the Yant and Woodrow neighborhood was taught by Mr. Phenicia. Rev. Mr. Summerbell, well known to our citizens, was one of the first preachers Stephen Harvey erected a saw mill in 1854, resulting in great advantage to the infant settlement.

It was to this township that James Smith, the veteran orchard grower, first immigrated. He afterwards moved to Bloomfield township, where for many years he has been widely and popularly known in his department of enterprise. Isaac Cooper came here in October, 1845, and subsequently became a resident of Fort Des Moines.

Altoona, partly in Beaver, but principally in Delaware township, a few miles west of Mitchellville, at the junction of the Rock Island and Keokuk & Des Moines railroads, was started in 1867, by a Mr. Cook, who called it Petersburg. The next year, August 3d, 1868, when it contained but two houses, it was officially laid out by H. G. Davis and J. B. Bausman, of Des Moines. When the Rock Island Railroad reached this place, in 1867, it was called Yant's

Station, and was afterwards rechristened Altoona, by suggestion of Mr. Bausman.

Among the early residents of Altoona, were W. Chamberlain and N. W. Wheeler, merchants; and J. W. Seller, blacksmith. H. C. Ensign laid out eighty acres in Delaware township as the first addition to the original town plat of ten acres. Dr. Morgan opened his office for the practice of medicine, and in 1871, T. E. Harris opened a grain warehouse and sold farming implements. In 1873, the K. & D. M. depot was built, and D. A. Cheney erected an elevator. A large and commodious school house was built in 1874.

A society of Methodists was formed in the Harvey neighborhood, meeting at the residence of that gentleman. Jacob Butts, an exhorter, often addressed the class. He also taught a singing school.

Calvin Thornton and Larned Case were among the first magistrates of Delaware township. Mr. Case came to the county in 1847, and Mr. Thornton a little earlier. A destructive prairie fire occurred in this township in 1868.

DOUGLAS TOWNSHIP

Contains Township 80, range 23. The greater part of this township is settled, and dotted over with thrifty farms. The largest farm in the County, embracing a thousand acres, is owned here by A. C. Bondurant. Delaware Precinct, from which Douglas was taken, was originally ten miles square. The new Township was created in 1858. Among the first settlers was Calvin Thornton, who was the first Justice of the Peace. Daniel Justice, and other members of his family, located here at an early date.

Hon. William G. Madden, a farmer and extensive stock grower, and also one of the members of the Legislature, has since 1854, been a resident of this part of the County. The Thorntons and Brazeltons, forming a large group of relatives, came here in early times. Seventeen of these

relatives were on the cars, which were recently wrecked near Columbus, Ohio, and two of them, Mrs. C. Brazelton, and Isaac Thornton, were killed. A large party of our citizens in town and county, among whom was the unfortunate company from Douglas Township, started from Des Moines, September 12th, to be participants in the grand Indianapolis excursion to Philadelphia. Mrs. Brazleton was a sister of Hon. W. G. Madden.

Isaac Thornton, one of the killed in the late disaster, came to what is now Douglas Township in 1846, settling on the farm now owned by William Justice. He afterwards moved to Van Meter, Iowa. The remains of Mrs. Brazleton were buried in the Friends' Cemetery at Greenwood in this township.

The Greenwood post office was established many years ago.

ELKHART TOWNSHIP.

Township 81, range 23. The Chicaqua river runs through the Northeast part. The prairie is rolling and fertile, possessing many genuine attractions. The Elkhart post office was established in the Southeast part, April 7th, 1853. More than half the land has been improved. In 1846, a trio of enterprising men, Messrs. Byers, Elliott, and Fowler, made the initial improvements in this township. Charles W. Gurnea, for several years a member of the Board of Supervisors, made his home here at an early date. In the central part of Lavish Grove, Walter Corey, an old settler, who gave the name to Corey's Grove, laid out the town of Ottawa, October 6th, 1856, which attracted considerable attention. It contained a hotel, post office, blacksmith shop, and McClary's mill. It was on the line of the mail route leading through Peoria City.

FOUR MILE TOWNSHIP.

The greater part of this township is undergoing improvement; and as a farming section, it is rapidly increasing in wealth, population and importance. Coal exists in quantities. Among the early settlers were Lewis Barlow, Mr. Ellison, Joshua and his son, Rev. A. J. Barton. The wife of the elder Barton was a physician of good repute; and the son was a popular local preacher, who became Chaplain of one of our Regiments during the war.

In 1851 Lewis Barlow laid out the village of Rising Sun, the plat of which was filed for record July 8th, 1854. For years thereafter, it steadily increased in population and business. But the railroads which introduced sad reverses to many enterprising communities, brought practical ruin to this place. Two railroads pass near enough to kill it. J. B. Tiffin, for eight years our County Treasurer, sold merchandise here more than twenty years ago. Among other pioneers, we are able to mention Lewis Barlow and Thomas McCall, who kept store, Ross Garrett, who started another store; Benjamin Pearson; Jacob Fisher, hotel; Dr. Burnett, Mr. Birk, Mr. McBroom, a farmer, and Benjamin F. Frederick, son of Jacob Frederick, one of the oldest settlers in the County. Besides these, some of whom belong to the town, and others to the country, were James Rooker, and Emory Barlow. Thomas Humphreys taught the first school just south of town. George Currans was the first magistrate. The parties to the first wedding were George Stewart and Miss Rogers. Isaac Barton was married a few weeks afterward.

It was in this and Camp townships that the great oil excitment of 1865 originated. The earth in the latter township was penetrated to the depth of several hundred feet; but as no oil was developed the work was abruptly abandoned. The whole thing was a gigantic swindle, designed

to impose on the credulity of the people, and to transfer an untold amount of gold or greenbacks to the pockets of professional sharpers. We have a certificate of one hundred shares in the Spring Creek Oil Company, which we will sell very cheap for cash, or credit on good time.

Rising Sun is situated on the north line of the township, between Spring and Four Mile Creeks. Two church buildings, one belonging to the Methodists, and the other to the Christians, were built here in 1860. Rev. J. B. Hardy, Presiding Elder in the M. E. Church, resided here in 1857. The Methodist parsonage for the circuit has long been located in the village. In 1860 the population of Rising Sun was not less than 300.

A Methodist Society, of which Benjamin Pearson and others were members, was organized at Rising Sun in 1851. Revs. A. J. Barton, Ezra Rathburn, and Moses Shinn were the ministers. Willam Dawson and John Hawkins bought their merchandise at this village. A Mr. Smith lost a child here, which was the first death in town. The death of Lewis Barlow, the village proprietor, took place shortly afterward. Dr. Jessup, of Ottawa, preached the funeral discourse, standing in the door of the cabin, with an attentive and mourning audience outside.

The first sorghum in the County was raised by J. F. A. H. Roberts and B. F. Frederick, in 1857. In the winter of 1856–57, Jeremiah Barlow died. The ground was so hard that fire was applied to soften it, before a grave could be dug to receive the body of the pioneer. Walter Ellis came to the township in 1855, settling ten years later in the village. He erected the first house in Dexter, Dallas county, in 1868.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP.

Nearly half of the land is improved, the vacant land being in the northeast. The Chicaqua river runs through the northeast corner; and along its margin timber is found. In

the neighborhood of this stream is Trullinger's Grove, named for the pioneer, Eli Trullinger, who made here a settlement, April, 1846. Another grove, situated in the northwest part, goes by the name of Lavish, in honor of the gentleman who established himself in that vicinity.

Our data in reference to the colonization of this township are very imperfect, giving us much trouble, with but little profit in the investigation. Mrs. Sanford, whose history of Polk county is full of interesting details, states, while writing of Beaver and Franklin townships, without a clear discrimination as to boundary lines, that A. C. Vandoren settled in the northwest corner in 1856; and that I. H. Woodrow, whose name is mentioned elsewhere, came originally to Trullinger's Grove; and in the same connection she notices the names of B. H. Woodrow, John H. and Benjamin Robison.

Franklin was originally a part of Skunk township. Michæl Lavish, Nathan Webb, Ezekiel Jennings, and Joseph Jones settled here in 1846, as the advance guard of a large and flourishing colony. Deer and wolves were numerous. The Indians were often saucy and impertinent to the settlers, but not hostile. Christopher Birge, father-in-law of Benjamin Bryant, came to this region in 1846.

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP.

Beaver Creek flows through the central part, and Ayers' Grove is in the Southwest. Pleasant Lake is situated here. April 23d, 1857, a man named Doggett, laid out a town on the plateau between South Beaver and Des Moines river, which was at first called Andrews, but which at a later day was generally known as Dogtown. The Lincoln post office is established here. The village has not made much improvement.

Nearly cotemporary with this enterprise, another village, Lovington, was started December 2d, 1854, at the mouth of

Beaver Creek. This village has now no existence, except in our border annals. Among the early denizens of this township, were Abraham Elliott, and the two brothers McClain. These gentlemen took a leading part in making up the civil and political history of their section.

Before leaving this township, we must not omit an excellent family by the name of Murray, consisting of the parents and seventeen children. They came here more than twenty years ago. Two of the sons lost their lives in the service of their country, and a third one suffered the loss of his property by fire sometime since.

It was in this township that a most atrocious murder was committed, August 9th, 1854. Pleasant Fouts deliberately killed his wife, and finally escaped hanging by a commutation of his sentence to imprisonment for life. The elder Mr. Murray was present at the scene of the murder shortly after its accomplishment, and was, therefore, an important witness at the trial.

The school house in the McClain neighborhood was the first in the township. It was used not only for schools, but for religious and political purposes, especially the latter.

The site of the village of Lovington, to which we have referred, is now within the limits of Valley Township. Another town named Huntsville was laid out February 21st, 1854. Like most of the other villages of this part of the country, which were started on paper in speculative times, Huntsville does not now exist.

W. H. McHenry, one of the early Mayors of Des Moines, lived originally in a cabin in this township. He is now one of the solid lawyers of the city.

MADISON TOWNSHIP.

This is one of the most important Townships in the County, celebrated alike for its population and wealth, as well as for the abundance of its natural resources, and for

the interesting nature of its local history. Polk City, one of our principal towns, was laid out by George Beebe, November 8th, 1850. Mr. Beebe, the first magistrate in this section, erected a mill, brought on a stock of goods, and sold lots The new village was attractively located. Dr. Mather was the first physician. Piper and Barnum were merchants. John De Moss, Thompson Bird, and Mr. Martz, preached here in those days, the last named dividing his time between preaching and running a small chair factory. Andrew Messersmith, who took a claim four miles from town, and John Saylor supplied the soldiers of Fort Dodge with hay, meat, and other necessaries.

In time, the village was enlarged by the arrival of Dr. Armstrong, N. R. Kuntz, Warren Pickard, Dr. J. C. Bennett, Philip Harter, and many others. Messrs. Pickard and Kuntz were merchants, and Mr. Harter kept hotel. Dr. Bennett, who has been dead several years, was an eccentric and talented man. He first distinguished himself among the Mormons; and after his immigration to Polk City, he was appointed Major of the Tenth Infantry during the first year of the war.

Two other towns, Montacute, (or Springfield) and Corydon, were started as rivals of Polk City; the former by John Hauser, on Big Creek, southeast of Polk City, May 23d, and the latter in 1853, by J. H. Skidmore. New Corydon was laid out August 21st, 1855. Polk City maintained the lead from the start; and two years ago it was made a station on the Des Moines & Minnesota Railroad, constituting the most important place on the line of that road between Ames and Des Moines.

To make the early history of this township more succinct and complete, we subjoin the following items: George Beebe settled here in May, 1846, succeeded soon after by Rev. D. C. Marts, Andrew Grosclose, J. M. Marts, John

Hays, William Hurbert, Andrew Messersmith, the Van Dorn's, D. B. Spaulding, and the Byrom's.

Polk City lies partly on the site of an old Indian village, Waukonsee by name, the remnants whereof were employed by Alexander Swim and others, in the construction of their cabins. William Herbert, and Calvin M. Burt are embraced among old settlers, the latter of whom married a Miss Thornton a year after his arrival. The death of the young wife of Mr. Burt, which occurred a few months later, was the first event of the kind in Madison Township. One of the first justices was 'Squire Deford.

Polk City was incorporated in 1875; and the following officers were chosen to rule the destinies of the young city: Mayor, A. D. Hickman; Recorder, J. A. Kuntz; Treasurer A. L. Clinghan; Assessor, T. L. Dyer; and the Aldermen were, N. R. Kuntz, O. N. Rogers, Wm. G. Swim, W. J. Wilson, and Dr. R. B. Armstrong.

Coal and stone are found in large quantities in Madison Township; and Big Creek, Des Moines River, and other streams furnish abundant water for all purposes. Everything considered, this Township occupies a good position; and Polk City, with its railroad and other advantages, is destined to grow year by year in importance and prosperity.

Cantrell's flouring mill was erected in 1847, three miles North of John Saylor's residence.

A log school house was one of the early structures in Polk City, in which for a long time a Sabbath School was kept in addition to the common school. Church services were held in it by Rev. D. C. Marts, and other ministers. Revs. John De Moss, and Thompson Bird preached at the residence of George Beebe, through the Fall and Winter of 1850.

Montacute, one of the rivals of Polk City, had in it a store-house and one or two other buildings. Its proprietor,

John Hauser, was Post Master for a brief term. The mail was brought from Des Moines on horseback.

Corydon had a school house, blacksmith shop, saw-mill, and several dwelling houses.

The following poem, written by the Polk county poet, Leonard Brown, in the rhythm of Longfellow's Hiawatha, is not only meritorious in a literary sense, but, historically considered, it is very valuable, containing as it does the familiar names belonging to other times:

OLD LANG SYNE.

BIG CREEK, POLK COUNTY, IOWA.—CENTENNIAL POEM.

Thirty years ago, an ox-team
Wended, browsing, up the river,
Forded Big Creek—traveled westward,
Following up an Indian pathway
To the village of Wauconsa—
Indian village of Wauconsa—
Deserted village of Wauconsa—
Then moved onward up the river,
On until it struck the prairie
Right where Beighler has his farm house;
There it was the ox-team halted,
And the mover built his cabin.
'Twas the house of Andrew Grosclose—
Of the first white man that settled
West of Big Creek, in Polk county.
But soon other movers followed—
Calvin Burt with his companion,
Anchored here and built their cabin—
But, alas! it soon was lonely:
The companion of his bosom
Soon was carried in her coffin
From the door of that lone cabin—

The first funeral attended—
The first grave dug of the pale-face
In the neighborhood of Big Creek—
Buried on the farm of Grossclose—
On the farm of Andrew Grossclose.
No man held a better title
To his land than Andrew Grossclose;
And he set apart an acre—
Gave it for a public grave yard.
Let me give a panorama
Of the funeral procession,
Moving forward to the graveyard.
Several wagons I have counted,
Drawn by oxen and by horses—
For the people then were friendly—
For they then were truly neighbors—
Felt the sympathy of children
For the griefs of one another.
There were Uncle Jacob Van Dorn,
William, Abner, George and Isaac—
The Martses—David, George and Jacob–
Stephen Harvey, and George Beebe—
Adam, John, and Andrew Byron—
Adolphus and Josiah Hopkins—
The Messersmiths and both the Bowmans,
John and James, and Henry Crabtree—
Uncle George and Jacob Hauser—
Leonard Small and D. B. Spaulding,
Bristow, Norris, Kasher, Provolt,
Hays, and Bryant, Hunt, and Hinman—
Alexander Pierce and Richard—
Herbert, Holliday, Swim, and Williams.
These and all the generation—
Fathers, mothers, wives and children—
Others, too, that I've forgotten—

Through bad memory omitted.
'Fifty-one, it should be written,
Brought the mighty flood of waters—
Flood of waters and of movers—
Mormons traveling to Utah—
Emigrants to California—
Hurrying to the Eldorado.
Then poured down the floods from heaven,
Till the river was a mammoth,
Swallowing all the vegetation,
Trees and everything before it—
Reaching over all the bottoms—
Climbing higher up the hill-sides
Than it ever had before climbed—
Moving with tremendous fury—
Irresistible and vengeful.
And the movers came by hundreds—
Staked their claims and built their cabins.
Andrew Grossclose built his mill then;
Conrad Stutzman built his mill then;
And George Hammond built his mill then—
These were water mills on Big Creek—
Some were saw-mills—others grist-mills;
But before this Swim's grand horse-mill
Ground the corn for all this region—
The first grist-mill west of Big Creek—
West of Big Creek in Polk county.
And Polk City, too, was founded
(In the previous year of '50,)
Knocking Montacute to flinders,
And discomfiting the merchants
Who had opened there their store house—
Uncle George and Jacob Hauser—
And Polk City rose in splendor,
And the square was cleared of timber.

It was soon an active village
With the store of Justice Beebe—
(The first Justice upon Big Creek;)
And the mill of Conrad Stutzman,
And Ives Marks' great chair factory—
And his hotel on the corner,
And his twenty-five-cent dinners,
With "corn bread and common doin's"—
And his half a dollar dinners
With "wheat bread and chicken fixen's,"
Giving to the hungry traveler
Bill of fare and choice of dishes,
And due notice as to prices—
With the wagon shop of Crabtree,
And with Nubro's anvil ringing,
And the school taught by Miss Mather,—
By the maid Desire Mather.
Pupils, too, like Henry Crabtree,
Henry Summy and the Derixons—
Dwight, Erastus, Charles and William;
The Van Dorns—Issac, Hez, and Abner—
And the Miller's, Swim's, and Hauser's—
Full of fight and fun and frolic—
Brilliant boys and earnest teacher!
With the spelling schools of those days,
And such spellers as Ab. Van Dorn—
With the singing schools of those days,
Taught by Herbert—singing master—
With the rosy girls of those days,
In their handsome linsey dresses;
With the quilting bees of those days—
And the kissing bees of those days—
And the sparking and the hoe-downs,
And the rousing big camp-meetings,
And the pentecostal shouting.

Lively times they had in those days—
Better than the times of these days,
When the cry of all is "money,
Money, money, give us money!"—
Yes, Polk City then was active:
Then you might have heard McCalla
Talking politics with Ally,
In the store of William Hopkins,
Of William and Adolphus Hopkins.
Even then did father Beighler
Foot it often to Polk City—
Foot it six miles to Polk City,
Rather than fatigue his old horse
Feeding idle in the pasture—
Standing idle in the stable.
'Twas about the year of '50
That the stalwart youth, John Byrom,
Went to Raccoon Forks, a deck hand
On a raft, and caught the small-pox.
He had put up at the tavern
Kept at Raccoon Forks by Tucker—
By the noted Martin Tucker—
The distinguished Martin Tucker—
Him—the educated landlord—
Master of the English language—
Student of old Noah Webster—
Stood in Tucker's grand "pizarro"—
Stood beneath his "portirico"—
Slept, perhaps, in the "condition"
He had added to his tavern—
And had walked along the "revenue"
Made by Tucker through his garden—
Here John Byrom caught the small-pox.
'Twas about this time that Grossclose,
(I should say a little later)

Notified and warned Polk City
Of the danger that did threaten,
From the mighty flood of waters
That the ditch that he was digging
To the monster slough at Hat Grove
To supply his dried up mill pond,
Would bring pouring down upon her,
And demolish the huge mill-dam,
Built by Stutsman across Big Creek,
At the feet of fair Polk City—
And demolish the chair factory—
Sweep the town into the river;
Sweep it into Des Moines river.
In those days old father Buzick
Preached the gospel at Polk City—
And to-day though four score winters
Whiten with their frosts his temples,
Yet he preaches to the people,
Often passing through Polk City.
Of the pioneer apostles
Is the veteran, Ezra Rathburn—
Ezra Rathburn, father Buzick—
Let their names be writ together—
They two were the earliest preachers
To the people of Polk County—
And their names are cherished fondly
By the people of Polk County—
The old settlers of Polk County.
Those men never preached for money—
If they did they never got it—
All they got let no man grudge them—
Feasted not on savr'y viands—
Not on yellow-legged chickens—
But on pumpkin sauce and hominy,
And "corn dodgers" baked in ovens

On the coals before the fire
Blazing up the big sod chimney,
Shining on the chink and daubing—
On the loom and on the big wheel,
And upon the rustic bedsteads,
And the quilts of patched linsey—
Pieces of the children's dresses—
Of the big girls and the little—
Of the wife's and good grandmothers—
Pieces of the father's trowsers—
Scraps of blue jeans and tow-linen—
Shining on the gun and shot-pouch,
Hanging just before the door-way
And dried pumpkins and yarn skeins—
Hanging 'neath the clapboard ceiling
'Gainst the white-washed joists of linden.
Other names I here must mention—
Names deserving high encomium—
Wood's and Coger, Brooks and Adams—
Earnest preachers and hard workers—
Hopkins, Peirce and father Wilson—
Friends of God and man and freedom
(But cold shoulder for Free Masons)
And Ives Marks, detesting fiddles,
Looking on them as of Satan—
Carnal, sinful, very wicked.
He had faults and many virtues—
Conscientious and devoted,
Persevering and determined:
Long his name will be remembered—
And of all those early preachers.
I have slighted the school masters;
They deserve no less than preachers
To be mentioned here with honor.—
John De Moss the first, then Groom came,

And then Hall, and Butt and Williams—
C. J. Clarke and Greene and Mosier,
And the veteran Robert Wilson—
Practiced teacher—honored father—
Through a long life he had labored
As a kind and loved instructor,
Doing good to all, as Christ did,
He has gone to meet the Master--
Meet the Master whom he followed,
Doing good to all as Christ did.
Mrs. Bristow, Mrs. Nutting,
Miss Beech and Rebecca Hauser,
And the good Desire Mather
Were the early lady teachers
In the region upon Big Creek,
Upon Big Creek in Polk County—
Teachers that are not forgotten
By their pupils and the people.
Many names have I passed over
Of the pioneers that battled
With their hardships and privations—
Baker, Hanna, P. G. Miller,
Weiss and Wheelhouse, Smutz and Skidmore,
Doctor Herford and Milhollen—
Leighsty, Eslick and the Murrays—
Isaac Nussbaum, Henry Beeson,
Father Kellison, Robert Hopkins,
Peter Suter, Amos Stevens,
Myers, Hiram Smith and Davis,
Mercer, Rodney, Eli Mosier,
David Reuser and Neuswander—
Blain and Burley and the Griggsbys—
Doctor Mather—first physician
To wade through the sloughs of Big Creek.
But soon followed John C. Bennett—

From Des Moines came Doctor Bennett,
Champion of Shanghai chickens—
Importer of fancy chickens—
Writing volumes about chickens,
Chickens, chickens, chickens, chickens,
Wrote of nothing else but chickens—
Talked of nothing else but chickens—
Dreamed of nothing else but chickens—
And the nation now is debtor
To the Doctor for big chickens;
And the preachers all are debtor
To the Doctor for good chickens—
For the yellow-legged chickens.
But my sketch is growing lengthy—
I must try to hasten forward.—
Here I pause to name old settlers
That are gathered to their fathers:
Wheelhouse, George and Jacob Hauser—
Jacob, George and William Van Dorn;
And the Martses, George and Jacob;
Adolphus and Josiah Hopkins;
Schiedler, Hammond, Swim and Baker—
D. B. Spaulding and John Messersmith—
Conrad Stutzman, Father Crabtree—
Benjamin Hunt and P. G. Miller—
Samuel Hays and J. C. Bennett,
Hiram Smith and brave John Kellison.
These are gathered to their fathers.
Men that lived to do their duty—
Men that battled against hardships
For the rising generation—
And the world was made the better
By their toils and sufferings in it;
And the coming generations
Will be grateful for their labors—

Holding them in fond remembrance.
But I now go to politics—
To the Presidential conflict
When Abe Lincoln was elected—
To the year of 1860.
What increase of population
On the classic banks of Big Creek!
Who were active in this canvass!
I see Kuntz and Clark and Packard
Working for the tall Rail Splitter—
I see Walker, Peter Suter,
Armstrong, Ally and George Beebe,
Working for the Little Giant.
The excitement of that canvass
Was a ripple on the water—
But a ripple on the water.
Soon the storm poured down upon us—
Soon the waves piled up like mountains—
Waves of Big Creek rose like mountains.
Much the town had changed since '50.
And Polk City gave big promise
To become indeed a city.
Kuntz and Pickard thought they saw here
Promise of a rising city—
Thought this must become a centre
For a vast and fertile region
And a thriving population,
When these prairies all were settled—
And they pulled up stakes and came here,
Buying out the firm of Hopkins.
Kuntz sold all his lands and came here—
Fertile lands in Story county—
Changed his plan of life and came here,
And has diligently labored,
Standing true in every trial

To his country and this people,
And is recognized a leader.
And a promising young fellow,
A school master and law student,
Full of hope of wealth and glory,
Got his eye upon Polk City
And upon an old man's daughter—
Even Kellison's fair daughter.
Charles J. Clark—school master, lawyer,
Colonel in the Union army;
President on the occasion
Of this Centennial celebration,
Anchored in this little village—
In this village full of promise.
Smutz sold out his farm and came here—
Came to educate his children.
Jacob Crum moved to this village—
Dr. Armstrong bought out Mather,
Coming from far off Ohio—
From a land of boundless beauty—
From a happy land of plenty,
Looking far into the future
With an eagle eye to business,
Calculating well and wisely—
Drove his stakes here in this village—
Drove them down deep and abiding.
Henry Summy built a shoe shop—
Collins Baker studied medicine,
And George Beebe built a steam mill—
And all this prior to 1860.
But the placid flowing Big Creek
Soon was greatly agitated:
Yes, this limpid, joyous Big Creek,
By the firing upon Sumpter.
See it rising into fury—

See it boiling like Niagara!
'Twas the spring when singing locusts
Filled the air with notes of warning—
Warning of approaching blood-shed—
Of the bloody war to follow.
Then it was prognosticated
That a bloody war must follow;
For old people plainly read it
On the wings of singing locusts
"W" printed, plainly printed
On the wings of all the locusts,
Warning us of war approaching.
And the war came grim and vengeful;
Mothers saw their sons departing—
Wives clung weeping to their husbands—
Brave men buckled on their armor;
Brave men shouldered then their muskets,
Kissed their babes and hurried southward.
Where are Bean, and Caswell Murry—
Gideon and Isaac Fletcher—
Derixon, Dunwiddie and Spencer—
Courtney, Lewis, Bard and Baker—
Benjamin and Isaac Nussbaum—
Thomas Murry, Andrew Murry—
Skidmore, Williams, Peter Michler—
Donald Sharp and George C. Stevens,
O. O. Mosier and H. Millard?
Where are Musgrove and John Virtue—
Henry Beeson and John Filmer—
Randolph Harber and John Mercer—
Enoch Beighler and McDowell,
And George Griggsby and Clark Wilson?
Where are these, I pray you tell me?
Are they with us, or afar off?
They fell fighting for their country

On the banks of the great river—
Or by accident and sickness,
Far from home and wife and mother;
But their history is written,
And their names will be remembered.
Thanks, friends, for your kind attention
To this long and dry narration.
I had many things to tell you—
There is much I have omitted--
There were many names to mention—
Every man that stands before me—
Every woman, child and baby—
Everybody and their neighbors
Should be mentioned in this story—
In the history of Big-Creek.
Let this history be continued
By the writers that shall follow
By the readier, abler writers
That shall follow in the future!

SAYLOR TOWNSHIP.

John Saylor, afterwards so prominent in the county, settled here in 1845, and gave the name to the township. He laid out Saylorville, May 1st, 1851, James Ewing built the first frame house, and Mr. Case from Four Mile Township taught the first school. The mills of Messrs. Tidrick and Bales were heavily patronized. The Methodists built a church in 1858. John Whitmer was one of the first settlers in the vicinity of Saylorville. The village having been left out in the cold by our railroads has degenerated from year to year, until it has lost in a great measure its prestige of the olden time. New Saylorville was laid out September 8th, 1855.

The County Farm, containing two hundred and eighty

acres is in this township, the history of which I present elsewhere.

Franklin Nagle, the first Justice of the Peace in the township, made his claim in 1847, nearly two miles North of Saylorville, at which place he still resides. He is one of our solid and prominent citizens. A log school house was erected in 1847. The first birth occurred in the cabin of Addison Michael, in April, 1846. The father, Mr. Michael, removed afterward to Des Moines. The first wedding took place in John Saylor's cabin, the parties to which were, Tilman Bondurant and Sis Kooney, the latter being but fifteen years old. Mrs. Alfred M. Lyon, Mrs. Bradley, and Mrs. Young were guests, as also was Addison Case, dressed in homespun garb. The parties to the next wedding were Benjamin Saylor and Miss Elizabeth Norris. John Bradley lived in a cabin made of cornstalks, with a pole roof. Mr. Beeson and Robert Howard were settlers here.

A Methodist class was organized in 1848, of which Elijah Crawford was leader. Prayer meetings were held for years in the cabin of John Saylor. Benjamin Saylor, an earnest and good man of that period, assisted greatly in promoting the interests of religion and education.

A Fourth of July celebration was held in this township in 1847, in which the early settlers of that vicinity generally participated. An excellent dinner was served.

The village of Mount Auburn, the site of which is now in Crocker Township, was laid out June 7th, 1851, and vacated April, 1873.

WALNUT TOWNSHIP.

J. C. Jordan, whose name is a household word in all this region of country, built his cabin six miles west of Des Moines, in 1848. He bought his lumber at Parmalee's mill, on Middle River. His neighbors, over in Dallas county, were Joshua Boon, and D. M. Flynn. Several brothers,

named Bennett, settled here in 1848. Rev. Raynor, a Methodist minister, preached in Mr. Jordan's cabin in 1849. Leroy Lambert, now a banker at Adel, had a claim here. John Evans, a family by the name of Crow, and others, date back more than twenty years in their settlement. The old village of Hanover was laid out October 12th, 1859.

The two modern villages of Commerce and Ashewa, the former, on the Rock Island, was laid out April 22d, 1871, and the latter, on the Des Moines & Fort Dodge Railroad, April 8th, 1876, have a healthy existence. Near these points is Valley Junction, once a station on the Des Moines Valley Road, changed afterward to Ashewa. Jordan's Chapel, a neat little structure, belonging to the M. E. Church, was built several years ago. The greater part of Walnut Township has been progressively improved, until now, in the Centennial year, it teems with solid improvements and an energetic population. Walnut Creek, and Raccoon River, on both of which Messrs. Fitzsimmons and Hezekiah Fagan operated mills a quarter of a century ago, are the important streams. Mr. Fagan, an honest and good man, died some years since; and his old partner in milling, Mr. F., is now living near Casey, on a farm.

The town of Commerce, situated in the Northwest quarter of Section 29, Township 78, Range 25, was laid out by Messrs. A. J. and J. A. Jack, brothers, long known as residents of Des Moines. It lies on high but easy slopes, overlooking the Raccoon River, and is a station of considerable importance on the line of the C., R. I. & P. R. R. The dam and flouring mill erected at this point, by the above named proprietors, at the time the town was laid out, is the initial industry which has led to its development as an important point in the county.

Valley Junction, like Commerce, is situated near the Southern line of Walnut Township, in the opening of the two railroads which pass that point. It once had a history

as a railroad station, but the stations of Commerce, on the line of the C., R. I. & P. R. R., and of Waukee, in Dallas county, on the line of the Des Moines & Fort Dodge Railroad, interfered with its success in the earlier days of our railroads, and the business of the station was transferred to Waukee in 1871. It is a point of importance as a shipping station for live stock and produce, and the proprietor of lands in the vicinity, J. C. Jordan, proposes to revive the place, as a business point, by laying out a town immediately, at the Junction.

Ashewa, situated in the Southeast quarter of Section 8, Township 78, Range 25, and also in Walnut Township, has had an existence as a station on the Des Moines & Fort Dodge Railroad for some years.

Ed. Clapp, an early and prominent resident of Fort Des Moines, has a fine farm in this Township, in addition to his large property in the city.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

The surface of this township is principally prairie, watered by Indian Creek and Chicaqua, or Skunk river. Peoria City, located a short distance from the Story county line, and but a few miles from Iowa Center, came into being June 28th, 1856; and two years later it had a population of two hundred, with all the appointments of a flourishing village.

J. K. Hobaugh, and a number of his relatives, came to the village in the first year of its existence. This township was at one time, as the records show, a part of Skunk Township, the latter having been merged into Washington, Franklin, and Elkhart.

REMARKS ON TOWNSHIPS.

It will be seen that in writing up the townships in order, we have omitted several, for the reason, in part, that three

of them, Grant, Crocker, and Lincoln, are new creations, having had no independent history until a very late date, and for the additional reason that two others, Valley and Lee, have been so closely allied to Des Moines in a geographical and historic sense, it would have been difficult, and indeed almost impossible, to consider them separately. It is noticed, as a rule, that the townships received their first colonies, between the years 1845 and 1850. Of the rural section, Beaver township, represented by Thos. Mitchell, was the first in 1844, to recognize a white inhabitant; and Jefferson, it is believed was the last.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

The first mode in which the County Government was administered, was called the Commissioners system. The Board of Commissioners was elected for the first time, April 6th, 1846, before the Territory had become a State. The first meeting of the Board took place April 13th, of that year. The three Commissioners were Wm. H. Meacham, Benjamin Saylor, and E. W. Fouts; with Wm. McKay, Clerk of the Board. To exhibit the range of their authority, as well as to record early events, we will here detail some of their proceedings.

One of the first acts of the Board was to employ the eagle side of a half-dollar, as a temporary seal with which to authenticate their business. April 18th, W. Clapp and Addison Michael were licensed to keep grocery, a business which at that time included the sale of ardent spirits. April 14th, A. D. Jones was ordered to proceed as as soon as practicable to lay off a town at the site selected for the County Seat of Polk county. July 1st, sale of lots ordered for the 15th of July in Fort Des Moines.

JUDGES OF ELECTION APPOINTED.

July 6th, 1846, judges were appointed for the ensuing August election, viz: James Stewart, William Stewart, and Stephen Cooper, for Apple Grove, or Thomas Mitchell's residence on Camp Creek; James Mount, James White, Sen.,

and James McRoberts, for J. D. Parmalee's precinct, on Middle River; William Lamb, Thomas Morris, and Wm. Rickey, for Fort Des Moines; John Saylor, James Bradley, and James Thornton, for John Saylor's precinct.

July 7th, a poll tax of fifty cents on each male over twenty-one years of age, was ordered.

July 8th, A. D. Jones was ordered to make a plat of Fort Des Moines, for the use of Polk County.

July, 18, Peter Myers was auctioneer at the sale of town lots.

August 17th, 1846, the Board of Commissioners consisted of Thomas Black, Edward Martin, and James Mount, with Lewis Whitten as Clerk.

COUNTY PRECINCTS ORGANIZED.

September 22d, Dallas Precinct, including Dallas County proper, and all the country North and West of it, was organized, and the place of election was at the house of Mr. Stump.

Skunk Precinct was bounded North by a line indefinite, East by East line of County, and South by a line running South of the house of Thomas Mitchell, and West by Four Mile Creek, and a line running due North of said creek, with voting place at Ely Trullinger's residence.

Democrat Precinct was bounded North by a line running South of Thos. Mitchell's; East, by East line of Polk County; South, by South line of said county, and West by a line running North and South from the house of Wm. Lower.

Three River Precinct was bounded North by a line running West from the house of Wm. Lower; East, by a line running south from house of said Lower; South, by South line of Polk County, and West by a line indefinite, with place of election at Matthew Spurlock's.

Fort Des Moines Precinct was bounded North by a line

indefinite, and a line running due West from the house of Thos. Mitchell; West to Des Moines River; East by Des Moines River, and a line running due North from the house of Wm. Lower, to line running West from house of Thos. Mitchell; South by line running due West from said Lower's; and West by West line of Polk County, with place of election at Fort Des Moines.

Clay Precinct was bounded North by a line indefinite; East, by Four Mile Creek, and a line running due North from source of said creek; South by a line running due West from the house of Thomas Mitchell, and West by Des Moines River, with voting place at John Saylor's residence.

ELECTION JUDGES, &C.

The Judges of election for the Dallas Precinct were Mr. Stump, Thos. Corbell and Samuel Miller; for Democrat Precinct, Wm. S. Wallace, Creth Renfro, and J. Q. Deacon; for Three River, Matthew Spurlock, James McRoberts, and D. K. Harris; for Skunk Precinct, Henry Birge, Jennings, and Eli Trullinger.

October 7th, 1846. At this session of the Board, Lewis Whitten was appointed County Agent to sell lands, rent buildings, and perform various other duties.

JANUARY SESSION, 1847.

January term, 1847, Samuel Dilley and Thaddeus Williams, were appointed Constables for Fort Des Moines Precinct, and G. B Clark was appointed to take the census for 1847. P. M. Casady was paid $5.00 for professional services in a case before Esq. Meacham.

FEBRUARY TERM, 1847.

During the February term, John B. Scott was authorized to keep ferries across both rivers, with rates of toll as fol-

lows: Footman, 5 cents; horseman, 12½ cents; wagon and span of horses, 37½ cents. These rates apply to both rivers. The Townships of Richland, Camp, Linn, Skunk, Madison and Des Moines, were organized at this time. During this term, Peter Myers gave bonds as Clerk of the District Court, and L. D. Winchester as Prosecuting Attorney.

APRIL AND MAY TERMS.

The first entry of the Board of Commissioners under the State organization, is dated April 12th 1847. The members of the Board were the same as last given. During this term, Edward Martin was allowed to keep a ferry at his residence. The Township of Four Mile was organized.

During the May term Lewis Whitten's name appears again as Clerk of the Board.

JULY TERM.

At the July meeting, 1847, the County was divided into three Commissioner Districts, and the county of Boone was set off from Polk, and called Boone Precinct. At the same term, Peter Myers was paid 18¾ cents for swearing nineteen jurors. August 10th, John M. Wallace filed his bond as Clerk of the District Court, and Thomas Baker, as Prosecuting Attorney. August 14th, 1847, James Campbell filed bonds as County Recorder and Treasurer.

COURT HOUSE.

At the October meeting, the names of Thomas Black, James Mount, and Andrew Groseclose, appear as members of the Board. October 7th, the Board bought of Thomas McMullen a lot on which to build the Court House, for which they paid twenty-five dollars. The Court House was originally designed to be of frame material, but it was afterward changed to brick, with stone foundation, the entire

structure to be two stories high. John C. Jones was the architect.

COUNTY DIVIDED, ETC.

January 3d, 1848, the County was divided into the following Townships: Camp, Richland, Allen, Saylor, Madison, Des Moines, Linn, and Four Mile. January 5th, 1848, Thomas Mitchell was paid six dollars for arresting one Davis for passing counterfeit money, and for crossing river, supper, breakfast, horse-feed, horse-hire, traveling forty miles, and serving writ! At the same term, it was ordered that a lot be given to the M. E. Church, provided that a house of worship, either frame or brick, not less than 24 by 30, should be erected thereon within two years. The competitors for building the Court House were: W. A. Scott, Wm. W. Jones, Wm. R. Close, and John Saylor. The contract was given to John Saylor for $2,050.

APRIL AND JULY TERMS, 1848.

April 10th, W. A. and J. B. Scott were allowed to keep ferries over both rivers. Same date, Greenfield township, now in Warren county, was organized. July 6th, 1848, George A. Michael appears as Sheriff and Assessor.

OCTOBER TERM, 1848.

October 4th, B. F. Allen was allowed to build a dam across the Des Moines River. Henry Everly filed his bond, November 16th, 1848, as Clerk of the District Court. The Board of Commissioners was composed of Thomas Black, Andrew Groseclose, and John D. McGlothlen.

THE ELECTIONS OF 1849, ETC.

January 4th, 1849, Edward and Edwin Hall were allowed to build a dam at the site where they afterward erected a mill, on the Des Moines. April 2d, Lewis Whitten was

elected Prosecuting Attorney. July 12th, L. D. Winchester appears as Justice of the Peace for Fort Des Moines Township. October 21st, 1849, John McClain appears as County Surveyor; and in August of the same year, 6th day, Hoyt Sherman was elected Clerk of the District Court; James Lafferty, County Surveyor; Benjamin Bryant, Collector, Treasurer, and Recorder; J. M. Perry, Prosecuting Attorney; and Lewis Whitten, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners.

COURT HOUSE AND JAIL.

November 20th, 1849, R. W. Sypher was allowed by the Board to finish the jail, which had been commenced by Jas. Gurrant and George Shell, the latter dying before the completion of the work. At the same time, John Saylor was released from the Court House contract, after having been paid $225; and John C. Jones and Samuel Gray were authorized to finish the structure, the former doing the carpenter, and the latter the mason work.

JULY, AUGUST, AND OCTOBER TERMS.

July, 1850, Thomas H. Napier served as Sheriff and Assessor.

July 24th, 1850, Granville Holland was allowed $200 for painting the Court House.

Byron Rice was elected Prosecuting Attorney, and Amelius T. Reynolds Clerk of the District Court, August 5th, 1850.

Josiah Hopkins appears as a member of the Board of Commissioners, October 7th, 1850.

October 9th, 1850, Delaware Township was organized from parts of Four Mile, on the petition of Lewis F. Randolph, Stephen Harvey and others.

APRIL AND AUGUST TERMS.

April 10th, 1851, the name of Skunk Township was changed to Elkhart.

The last entry made by the Board of Commissioners, dated August 2d, 1851, was an order to pay Benjamin Bryant $3.72 for collecting $74.45. The members of the Board who were present on this occasion were Thomas Black and Josiah Hopkins; the third one, John D. McGlothlen, being absent.

PROBATE JUDGES.

The first Probate Judge was William Rickey, who went into office September, 1846; the second was A. C. Jones, October 4th, 1847.

The first entry of Judge Rickey is dated September 12th, 1846; and the last entry of Judge Jones is dated August 8th, 1851.

COUNTY JUDGES.

The first County Judge was F. G. Burbridge, who was elected at the August election, 1851.

The first entry made by Judge Burbridge, dated August 11th, 1851, in vacation of the Court, was an order to adopt the seal of the Probate Judge in probate business, and of the Board of Commissioners for all other matters requiring a seal, until a new one could be procured.

The first marriage license issued by the County Court, dated August 11th, 1851, authorized the union of Avery Hoskins and Amanda Michael.

The second County Judge was Byron Rice. Judge Burbridge died October 23d, 1851; and as Judge Rice was Prosecuting Attorney at the time, he became County Judge *ex officio*. At the following August election, 1852, he was

chosen County Judge. His last entry was dated June 4th, 1855.

Barlow Granger was the third County Judge, succeeding to the office July 2d, 1855. He served until August 29th, 1855.

Thomas H. Napier, the last of the County Judges to whom the Code of 1850 had given such large grants of official power, was elected to this office August 6th, 1855. Hi first official entry is dated August 30th, of the same year. He was re-elected August 3d, 1857, and served until the new order of things, following the adoption of the present Constitution, in 1857, legislated the office, as it was, out of existence. The date connected with his last official signature in the record, is January 12th, 1859.

The Judges elected after the adoption of the Constitution, were styled County Judges, although their powers were greatly abridged on the introduction of the Board of Supervisors in January 1861.

The fifth County Judge was J. H. McClelland, who went into office January 1st, 1860. He served three terms, or six years, and was succeeded in 1866, by Col. W. G. Bently, who resigned in September of the same year, giving place to M. W. Folsom.

Dr. John G. Weeks took the office October 17th, 1866, retaining it until January 6th, 1868, when John B. Miller succeeded.

Judge Miller's last entry is dated January 2d, 1869, when he became Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, and the office was virtually abolished.

The first Judges of the County had jurisdiction simply in probate cases; but afterward, as in the times of Judges Rice and Napier, they had executive control, acquiring by law a tenure of power which was indeed formidable. Subsequently, however, during the terms of Judge McClelland, and his successors, the office was modified by the introduction

of the Board of Supervisors, and its duties reverted to their original *status*. Before we continue the election record, already commenced, we propose to refer to some miscellaneous matters which seem to be appropriate in this place:

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

In July, 1847, Boone county was set off from Polk for political, judicial, and revenue purposes. It was called Boone Precinct.

December 5th, 1851, Hardin county was attached to Polk for political and other purposes.

At the April election, 1852, the whole number of votes cast in the county, were 727.

In September, 1852, there were thirty justices of the peace, and seven constables in the county, showing quite a disparity in numbers between the magistrates and their ministers.

The year 1857 was distinguished for the number of elections which occurred in it. First came the April election; and second, the August election, at which the present Constitution of the State was adopted. After these came the Fall election.

Sometime prior to the year 1857, the five townships which are now known as Des Moines, Lee, Crocker, Valley, and Bloomfield were joined together for civil and judicial purposes under the name of Des Moines township. In April, 1856, Will Porter and Benjamin Bryant were elected justices of the peace of this township. One of the competing candidates was Madison Young. The number of votes cast at this election in the townships named, was about 1,100 embracing a great preponderance of the votes in the county.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS—NAMES OF MEMBERS, ETC.

Since our organization as a county, we have had three distinct systems of county government. The executive

management was first vested in a Board of Commissioners. This occcrred in 1846. Next came the County Judges, the last of whom was re-elected in August 1857, and retired in 1860.

On the 7th day of January, 1861, the Supervisor system went into operation, assuming complete control of County matters. At that time each township, as a rule, was represented in the County Court by one Supervisor; but subsequently, as the system was cumbrous and difficult to manage, it was found convenient to divide the County into Supervisor districts; and at the present time we have but five Supervisors, instead of a score or more, as under the former regime.

The first members of the Board were elected November 6th, 1860. Their names are here appended:

Allen Township, A. Kenworthy; Bloomfield, Sam'l Gray; Beaver, Thomas Mitchell; Camp, Abraham Foutch; Des Moines, John Mitchell; Delaware, James O. Mason; Douglas, James H. Mathis; Elkhart, Charles W. Gurnea; Franklin, James Barrett; Four Mile, Bryan Hawley; Jefferson, John McClain; Lee, H. H. Griffiths; Madison, Geo. Beebe; Saylor, W. S. Fisher; Valley, W. W. Jones; Washington, S. J. Bachelder; Walnut, D. Wright.

John Mitchell, now Judge of the Circuit Court, was the first Chairman of the Board, and J. M. Laird was the first Clerk.

NEW COURT HOUSE.

One of the first acts of the Board was to secure control of the work on the new Court House. Judge Napier, in 1857, had given to Isaac Cooper the contract for building this edifice. Dyer H. Young was Architect and Superintendent. After repeated efforts had been made to compromise the matter, Mr. Cooper finally resigned his contract, and the Board went to work to finish the structure. For a

95200

time the Supervisors met in the old Court House; and then, having fluctuated between Sherman Block and Exchange Block for awhile, they at last, on the 5th day of January, 1863, took up their final quarters in the new Court House. The contract price for building this structure was sixty-four thousand three hundred dollars.

COUNTY OFFICERS AND DEPUTIES IN 1876.

Auditor—George C. Baker; Deputy, Geo. W. Bristow.

Clerk of Courts—J. H. McClelland; Deputies, J. W. Muffly, J. L. Keyes.

Treasurer—Wm. Lowry; Deputy, E. B. Hunt.

Recorder—J. C. Read.

Superintendent of Schools—Robert S. Hughes.

Sheriff—George Lendrum; Duputies, M. K. McFadden, Ed Smith.

Board of Supervisors—Nat. Parmenter, James Porter, T. T. Morris, H. L. Youtz, and Wm. Christy.

Jailor—A. Pearson.

County Physician—J. F. Kennedy.

Attorney—L. G. Bannister.

JUDICIAL OFFICERS IN 1876.

Judge of District Court—John Leonard.

Judge of Circuit Court—John Mitchell.

ELECTION RECORD.

At the April election of 1846, the following officers were chosen: Probate Judge, John Saylor; Sheriff, Thomas Mitchell; Coroner, James Phillips; Surveyor, A. D. Jones; Recorder, Thomas McMullen; Treasurer, William F. Ayers; Assessor, G. B. Clark; Collector, Addison Michael; Board of County Commissioners, Benjamin Saylor, William H. Meacham, E. W. Fouts.

From the date of this election in 1846, until the Spring election of 1819, extending through a period of three years, there is no official evidence that any elections took place in the County. By reference to the article under the general head of County Government, which reports the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners, it will be seen that certain officers were acting during this period. This of course is an incomplete and irregular record, but it is the best we can obtain. During the time specified, the following officers are mentioned: Commissioners elected in August, 1846, Thos. Black, Edward Martin, and James Mount, with Lewis Whitten as Clerk of the Board. Mr. Whitten was appointed County Agent to sell lands, rent buildings, &c., September 22, 1846. Samuel Dilley was appointed Constable of Fort Des Moines Precinct, and G. B. Clark was appointed to take Census, January, 1847.

Peter Meyers, gave bonds as Sheriff, and L. D. Winchester, as Prosecuting Attorney, February, 1847. John M. Wallace was elected Clerk of the District Court, and Thos. Baker, Prosecuting Attorney, August, 1847. It appears also that at the same time, Andrew Groseclose was elected member of the Board of Commissioners, taking the place of Edward Martin. At the same time, likewise, James Campbell was elected Collector and Treasurer.

In July, 1848, the records of the Board show that George A. Michael was acting as Sheriff. Henry Everly was elected Clerk of District Court, and John D. McGlothlen a member of the Board of Commissioners, August, 1848. Lewis Whitten was elected Prosecuting Attorney, April 12th, 1849; and at the August election following, Hoyt Sherman was elected Clerk of the District Court; Lewis Whitten, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners; J. M. Perry, Prosecuting Attorney; Benjamin Bryant, Collector, Treasurer, and Recorder; and James Lafferty, County Surveyor.

At the August election, 1850, Byron Rice was elected

Prosecuting Attorney; Josiah Hopkins, County Commissioner; Amelius T. Reynolds, Clerk of the District Court; Thomas McMullen, School Fund Commissioner.

There is no record whatever, except as an incidental matter, of the elections which occurred in 1851. It is known, however, that F. G. Burbridge was elected County Judge in that year; Hoyt Sherman was Clerk of the County Court; A. M. Lyon was Sheriff; H. H. Saylor, Deputy Sheriff; O. D. Smalley appears as Surveyor; John Hays acted as Bailiff.

Up to the year 1852, the County records were kept in such a confused and disorderly condition, that we have found it impossible, in some cases, to give the names of the officers who were elected before that time. We have searched carefully among the archives preserved in the Auditor and Clerk's offices for what we have needed; and the results, up to the date indicated, have already been given. The first regular record of elections, which could be found, begins with the April election, in 1852, at which time we resume this subject:

April 5th, 1852.—Byron Rice, elected County Judge; Wm. T. Marvin, Clerk of the District Court; R. W. Sypher, School Fund Commissioner; J. M. Perry, Prosecuting Attorney.

August 2d, 1852.—Wm. T. Marvin, Clerk of the District Court; J. M. Perry, Prosecuting Attorney; A. Y. Hull, State Senator; J. F. Rice, Representative.

April 4, 1853.—W. W. Williamson, elected Prosecuting Attorney; J. M. Montgomery, Drainage Commissioner.

August 1, 1853.—Samuel Gray, elected Treasurer and Recorder; Wm. H. McHenry, Sheriff; John McClain, Surveyor; Walter Oyler, Coroner; John M. Montgomery, Drainage Commissioner.

April 4, 1854.—R. W. Sypher, elected School Fund Commissioner.

August —, 1854.—Richard L. Chrystal, elected Clerk; Barlow Granger, Prosecuting Attorney; Alfred M. Lyon, and Ezra Van Hozen, Representatives; J. C. Jordan, Senator.

August 6, 1855.—S. M. Dyer, Treasurer and Recorder; Walter Oyler, Coroner; John H. Miller, Surveyor; Thomas H. Napier, County Judge; D. B. Spaulding, Sheriff.

April 1, 1856.—Wm L. Montgomery, School Fund Commissioner; Wm. H. McHenry, Drainage Commissioner.

August —, 1856 (first Monday,—Wm. P. Davis, and Benjamin Greene, Representatives; H. M. Hoxie, County Clerk; J. H. Gray, Prosecuting Attorney.

April 6, 1857.—J. D. McClain, elected County Assessor; Chas. Rogers, Drainage Commissioner; Wm. M. Stone, Judge Eleventh Judicial District.

August 3, 1857.—Thos. H. Napier, elected County Judge; Samuel M. Dyer, Treasurer and Recorder; D. B. Spaulding, Sheriff; J. C. Booth, County Surveyor; G. W Conner, Coroner; For New Constitution, 1,892—against, 106. For striking "White" out of the Constitution, 65—against, 557.

October 13, 1857.—Ralph P. Lowe, elected Governor; Oran Faville, Lieutenant Governor; Wm. P. Davis, State Senator; Thos. Mitchell, Representative.

April 5, 1858.—Samuel Bell, elected first County Superintendent. For State Bank, 1,330—against, 48. For general Banking Law, 1,170—against, 77.

October 12, 1858.—John H. Gray, elected Judge District Court; C. E. Millard, District Attorney; Dan Mills, Board of Education; H. M. Hoxie, Clerk of District Court.

October 11, 1859.—S. J. Kirkwood, elected Governor; N. J. Rusch, Lieutenant Governor; Stewart Goodrell, Representative; John H. McClelland, County Judge; J. B. Tiffin, Treasurer and Recorder; John Hays, Sheriff; C. C. Dawson, County Superintentendent; N. R. Kuntz, County Surveyor;

James Stanton, Coroner; John Hartman, Drainage Commissioner.

November 6, 1860.—J. M. Laird, County Clerk. County Supervisors elected.

October 8, 1861.—S. J. Kirkwood, elected Governor; J. R. Needham, Lieutenant Governor; J. H. Hatch, State Senator; John Mitchell, Representative; I. W. Griffith, Sheriff; J. B. Tiffin, Treasurer and Recorder; J. H. McClelland, County Judge; E D. Hawes, County Superintendent; G. W. Hall County Surveyor; A. C. Bondurant, Drainage Commissioner; Thomas Elliott, Coroner.

October 14, 1862.—J. M. Laird, elected Clerk of District Court; John A. Kasson, to Congress; J. H. Gray, Judge; John Leonard, District Attorney.

October 13, 1863.—W. M. Stone, elected Governor; Enoch W. Eastman, Lieutenant Governor; J. H. McClelland, County Judge; Nicholas Bayliss, Representative; H. M. Bush, Sheriff; J. B. Tiffin, Treasurer and Recorder; S. Barrows, County Superintendent; J. P. Foster, County Surveyor.

November 8, 1864.—John A. Kasson, re-elected to Congres; H. H. Griffiths, Clerk District Court; John Jack Jr., Recorder.

October 10, 1865.—W. M. Stone, elected Governor; B. F. Gue, Lieutenant Governor; George G. Wright, Judge Supreme Court; Hoyt Sherman, and G. L. Godfrey, Repre. sentatives; Jonathan Cattell, Senator; W. G. Bentley, County Judge; Nathaniel McCalla, Sheriff; Leonard Brown, Superintendent of Schools; J. B. Tiffin, Treasurer; J. B. Bausman, Surveyor.

October 9, 1866.—J. G. Weeks, elected County Judge; H. H. Griffiths, Clerk District Court; I. N. Thomas, Recorder.

October 8, 1867.—Samuel Merrill, elected Governor; John Scott, Lieutenant Governor; J. H. Hatch, and John A. Kasson, Representatives; J. B. Miller, County Judge; Charles

G. Lewis, Treasurer; P. H. Van Slyck, Sheriff; C. A. Mosier, Superintendent of Schools; Jule Bausman, Surveyor; Madison Young, Coroner.

October 3, 1868.—F. W. Palmer, elected to Congress; H. H. Griffiths, Clerk District Court; I. N. Thomas, County Recorder; John A. Nash, Superintendent of Schools.

October 12, 1869.—Samuel Merrill, Governor; M. M. Walden, Lieutenant Governor; B. F. Allen, Senator; John A. Kasson, and G. W. Jones, Representatives; John B. Miller, County Auditor; Chas. G. Lewis, Treasurer; P. H. Van-Slyck, Sheriff; P. B. Reed, County Surveyor; J. A. Nash, County Superintendent.

October 11, 1870.—F. W. Palmer, elected to Congress; C. C. Cole, Judge of the Supreme Court; C. H. Gatch, District Attorney; H. H. Griffiths, Clerk District Court; I. N. Thomas, County Recorder; P. D. Ankeny, Bryan Hawley, and Edwin Oaks, County Supervisors.

October 10, 1871.—C. C. Carpenter, elected Governor; H. C. Bulis, Lieutenant Governor; John A. Kasson, and J. M Tuttle, Representatives; J. B. Miller, County Auditor; F. R. Laird, County Treasurer; D. M. Bringolf, Sheriff; J. A. Nash, County Superintendent; G. W. Baldwin, County Supervisor; Frank Pelton, County Surveyor; A. M. Overman, Coroner.

November —, 1872.—John A. Kasson, elected to Congress; John Mitchell, Circuit Judge; John H. McClelland, Clerk; J. C. Read, Recorder; W. H. Davis, Supervisor.

October —, 1873.—C. C. Carpenter, Governor; Joseph Dysart, Lieutenant Governor; Thomas Mitchell, State Senator; Wm. G. Madden, and Isaac Brandt, Representatives; George C. Baker, County Auditor; Wm. Lowry, Treasurer; D. M. Bringolf, Sheriff; Frank Pelton, Surveyor; D. G. Perkins, County Superintendent of Public Schools; A. M. Overman, Coroner; Nathan Parmenter, Supervisor. For

increasing the number of Supervisors to Five, 2,180 votes for, and 1,715 against.

October 13, 1874.—J. A. Kasson, Congress; H. Y. Smith, District Attorney; J. H. McClelland, Clerk of the Courts; J. C. Read, County Recorder; T. T. Morris, Wm. Christy, Wm. B. Butler, and H. L. Youtz, County Supervisors.

October 12, 1875.—S. J. Kirkwood, Governor; J. G. Newbold, Lieutenant Governor; Josiah Given, and Wm. G. Madden, Representatives; George C. Baker, Auditor; Wm. Lowry, Treasurer; George Lendrum, Sheriff; Frank Pelton, Surveyor; Robert S. Hughes, Superintendent of Schools; Isaac W. Griffith, Coroner; James Porter, Supervisor.

COUNTY FARM.

Early in May, 1865, Messrs. S. F. Spofford, J. C. Jordan, and T. K. Brooks, acting as the accredited agents of the County, purchased 120 acres of land in Saylor Township, giving for the same $4,000. The land had been owned and occupied as a farm by John Yost, and considerable improvement had been made on it. Subsequently, in the same year, September 7th, the same parties negotiated for the purchase of an adjoining tract of land, containg 160 acres, making in all a farm of 280 acres, pleasantly located, and admirably adapted to the benevolent purposes for which the County became its owner.

The first Superintendent was J. B. Chadwick, who was followed in succession by Lewis Jones, P. D. Ankeny, G. W. Baldwin, and Nat. Parmenter. The first Directors were Lewis Jones, John McClain, and J. M. Moody, followed by J. H. McClelland, J. M. Walker, and Riley Thornton; who in their turn were followed by J. C. Jordan, and James A. Dunagan. These were succeeded by Samuel Bell, and John Youngerman; who were followed by M. W. Robinson, Wm. G. Madden, and J. C. Plummer.

The County physicians have been, A. G. Field, D. Beach, D. V. Cole for three years, ending in 1875, and J. F. Kennedy, the present one.

The following condensed history of the county farm, we have carefully gleaned from the volumes containing the records of the Board of Supervisors:

Early in 1865, the poor of the county had so multiplied, as an effect in great part of the war, the authorities deemed it imperative to institute some means by which the evil could be remedied. On the fourth day of April 1865, the Board appointed T. K. Brooks, H. Hall, John McClain, J. C. Jordan, and D. C. Martz, as a committee to select and purchase a suitable farm. At one time, it was almost decided to buy the property of P. H. Humphrey, of Beaver township; but ultimately the farm of Mr. Yost, five miles North of the city, was selected.

For the purposes contemplated in the purchase and initial improvement of the farm, the sum of $6,000 was appropriated out of the Swamp Land Fund. On the 16th day of May, the voters of Polk County decided by a large majority to employ this amount for the purposes indicated. Dr. Brooks was appointed to consummate the purchase of the farm, and S. F. Spofford, and J. C. Jordan became the agents of the County to buy stock and implements, employ Steward, and do all other things necessary to start the enterprize. To this last committee was entrusted a sum of $2000, which was prudently and judiciously expended.

May 22d, 1865, Messrs. Spofford and Jordan employed J. B. Chadwick and wife, on a salary of $750 per annum, to take supervision of the Farm; and during the same season, as the premises were in a state of dilapidation, many improvements were made.

Fences were repaired, a well was dug, 50 acres of land were cultivated, and a frame house, two stories high, with a brick walled cellar, the entire structure containing twenty-

seven rooms, was speedily erected. The old story and a half residence of Mr. Yost, was put into immediate use; and before the close of the year, twenty persons had comfortable quarters as subjects of County benevolence. Since then, improvements have been progressively made on the farm, adapting it to the necessities of the times; and in addition to all these, we are informed that a substantial and commodious barn is now in process of erection.

For several years, W. S. Fisher and wife have been very efficient in the respective capacities of Steward and Stewardess. The reports of the County Auditor for the past few years, indicate the fact that the affairs of the farm have been well managed. The unfortunate inmates of the County House, of whom there have been many, have been made comfortable; and it is gratifying to add, too, that this benevolent enterprise to give relief to the poor, is, in a financial sense, nearly self-supporting.

The County building proper, as it now stands, with all the repairs and additions which have been made to it, is three stories high, and its numerous rooms are well adapted to the comfort and convenience of inmates. The reports of officers show, that on an average, thirty persons per year have been admitted.

DISTRICT COURT.

The first term of the District Court for Polk County commenced April 6th, 1846, at Fort Des Moines, in a room occupied by Miss Davis, for school purposes. The records of this Court exhibit a singular combination of the elements belonging to County and Federal Government. This singularity was caused, doubtless, by the fact that the machinery of Government in those days was operated, to a great extent, by agents of the United States. The officers on this occasion were: Joseph Williams, of Muscatine, Judge; Thomas Baker, U. S. District Attorney; John B.

Lash, U. S. Marshal; Perry L. Crossman, first District Court Clerk; Thomas Mitchell, Sheriff.

One of the first duties to perform was to secure a temporary seal, with which to give official sanction to the business of the Court. Elsewhere it has been stated that the County Court selected for its seal the eagle side of a half dollar, American coin; and after due deliberation, the District Court adopted, by way of distinction, the eagle side of a quarter of a dollar.

It was found that there was no legal Grand Jury, and no legal Sheriff, as Mr. Mitchell was not qualified until next day. Some one acting as Sheriff, whose name does not appear in the minutes, returned, by order of Court, the following names, from which to constitute a Grand Jury: William Lamb, Samuel Dille, Newton Lamb, Benjamin Saylor, Peter Newcomer, John Baird, Thomas McMullen, George B. Warden, J. B. Scott, Jeremiah Church, J. M. Thrift, Thaddeus Milman, Samuel Deford, A. Brannon, Samuel Shaffer, G. B. Clark, W. W. Clapp, Wm. F. Ayres, J. D. Parmalee, James Davis, J. J. Meldrum, Thos. Leonard, and Lewis Whitten, Bailiff. The Jury having been thus organized, by selecting the legal number from the *venire*, they were set to work; but as no bills of indictment were found, and as no business of importance was presented, the Court, on the second day, adjourned to the September term.

The District Court convened again on the 28th day of September, 1846, with the same officers present. The Sheriff and U. S. Marshal returned the appended names, with which to form the jury: J. B. Mallett, John Thompson, George Maggs, John Q. Deacon, James Campbell, Alexander Sumner, Mormon Ballard, Stephen K. Scoville, Thomas H. Napier, William H. Meacham, Samuel Vanatta, William Lamb, Benjamin Saylor, T. K. Brooks, Samuel Shaffer, Samuel Kellogg, John Rose; and Lewis Whitten, Bailiff.

During this term, Perry L. Crossman resigned the Clerkship, and Alfred D. Jones was appointed to the vacancy.

The following gentlemen were admitted to the bar:

Wm. D. Frazee, R. L. Tidrick, A. D Jones, and P. M. Casady; the last of whom was admitted on motion of Thos. Baker, Prosecuting Attorney. Lewis Whitten was appointed Deputy Clerk.

JUDGES AND OTHER OFFICERS.

During the May term, 1847, Jas. P. Carleton was Judge; and for the May term, 1848, Cyrus Olney is reported on the Bench. Thomas Baker was still Prosecuting Attorney, and Jacob Frederick, at the latter term, was foreman of the Grand Jury. There is no record of the other officers.

During May term, 1849, the name of Wm. McKay appears for the first time in connection with the Judgeship of the District Court. At the same term the following gentlemen were admitted to the bar: Lewis Whitten, Amelius Reynolds, Barlow Granger, J. E. Jewett, Hoyt Sherman, and John Barnard.

At the October term, 1849, the same Judge presided. L. P. Sherman was Deputy Clerk; and O. R. Jones, W. W. Williamson, and Curtis Bates appear as attorneys.

OFFICERS AND ATTORNEYS.

During the May term, 1850, Judge McKay presiding, Madison Young, J. M. Perry, and Byron Rice were admitted to the Bar. It is proper to say here of Judge Rice, that the county is largely indebted to him for the important improvements he made in our local records when he was in office. He literally brought order out of confusion, making it easy for the historian to follow his entries.

During the September term, the same Judge presiding, John W. Rush was appointed Deputy Clerk.

At the April term, 1851, Judge McKay still on the Bench,

Charles McKay was admitted to the Bar; Samuel Bell was appointed Deputy Clerk, and Benj. Bryant, Bailiff.

At the September term, 1851, still the same Judge, Alfred M. Lyon is reported as Sheriff, Byron Rice as Prosecuting Attorney, and Samuel W. McCall as Foreman of the Grand Jury. C. Ben. Darwin, and Lewis Kinsey were admitted to the Bar.

During the March term, 1853, D. O. Finch and A. Y. Hull make their first appearance as attorneys; and Peter Myers is reported to have been admitted at the same time.

FIRST MURDER, ETC.

At the September term, 1854, Judge McKay, after having served on the Bench several years, was succeeded by C. J. McFarland, who had been the successful Democratic candidate at the previous election; his Whig opponent having been W W. Williamson. At this term, T. E. Brown, Will Tomlinson, and Hezekiah Beecher were admitted to practice law. It was at this term, also, that Pleasant Fouts was indicted for the murder of his wife. Messrs. Bates, Parish and Finch were counsel for defendant. A change of venue was taken to Jasper county, and Judge Wm. McKay was appointed to assist in the prosecution. This was the first murder case in our judicial record.

ATTORNEYS ADMITTED.

J. H. Gray, B. D Thomas, W. J. Gatlin, Will Porter, and Thomas Kavanaugh, were admitted to the Bar. The name also, of M. M. Crocker, of the firm of Finch & Crocker, appears for the first time.

T. A. Walker was admitted to practice law at the March term, 1856; and at the ensuing August term, Dr. J. G. Weeks, and John Mitchell, were admitted.

In June, 1857, S. V. White, J. S. Polk, M. B. Hoxie, M. D. McHenry, J. M. Dixon, and J. M. Elwood were admitted

to the Polk County Bar, and during the same year T. F. Withrow, and S. Sibley were numbered among the attorneys.

Judge Gray was re-elected in 1862, and died in office in 1865. He was succeeded by C. C. Nourse, appointed by Governor Stone. The reader is referred to the Election Record in another place, for information in regard to the other officers of the Court.

U. S. LAND OFFICE

The U. S. Land Office was opened at Fort Des Moines, January 28th, 1853. The first Register was Geo. S. Nightingale, who served from the date above given, until June 7th, 1853. The first Receiver was Eliphalet Price. R. L Tidrick was the second Register, discharging the duties of his office from June 7th, 1853, until May 31st, 1854. For the same period, Col. T. A. Walker was Receiver.

Col. Walker held the office of Register from June 15th, 1854, until September, 1857, during which time P. M. Casady was Receiver. Robert Brown was Register from September, 1857, to May 15th, 1858; and during this time Isaac Cooper was Receiver.

Isaac W. Griffith occupied the Register's Office from May 15th, 1858, to July 31st, 1861. For the same time, Isaac Cooper was Receiver. Stewart Goodrell was Register from July, 1861, until February 1st, 1864, during which time J. G. Weeks was Receiver.

Thomas Seeley, of Guthrie County, was Register from March 1st, 1864, to April 1st, 1868, during which time Stewart Goodrell was Receiver.

F. G. Clarke, the present incumbent of the Register's Office, commenced his term of service April 1st, 1868; and G. L. Godfrey, the present Receiver, came into office May 5th, 1869. Col. Godfrey recently resigned his office, and was succeeded by Capt. H. H. Griffiths.

The land sales in early times, were simply enormous, fre-

quently amounting in one day, to twenty-five thousand dollars in gold. The offices of Register and Receiver are located in the P. O. buiilding on Court Avenue.

POLK COUNTY SOLDIERS—SECOND AND THIRD INFANTRY.

The confined limits of this volume will not permit us to give anything like a full history of the companies organized in Polk County during the war for the Union. In the synoptical report which we propose to give of our soldiers, we are aided materially by an interesting volume entitled "American Patriotism," written by our fellow-citizen, Leonard Brown.

Company D, Second Iowa Infantry, was enrolled in May, 1861, and discharged in July, 1865. The commanding officers were: M. M. Crocker, N. L. Dykeman, N W. Mills, and Edgar Ensign. This Company was really in existence in 1860, befor the war, at which time it was known as the Capital Guards. The old flag of this organization, now at the State Arsenal, was the first of Iowa banners to wave over a rebel fortification, which it did at Ft. Donelson.

The following members received commissions during the war: M. M. Crocker, N. W. Mills, E. T. Ensign, E. L. Marsh, N. L. Dykeman, S. H. Lunt, G. L. Godfrey, E. C. Tunis, John Lynde, W. L. Davis, P. D. Gillette, W. E. Houston, L. B. Houston, D. M. Sells, J. H. Browne, Robert Allen, jr., T. G. Cree, William Ragan, W. H. Hoxie, J. H. Looby, and John Watson. The Second Infantry was gallantly led into the fight at Donelson by Colonel, afterward General J. M. Tuttle. Nathan W. Doty and Theodore G. Weeks, of Company D, were among the slain. The remains of these brave soldiers, who faced death and died as heroes die, were brought to Des Moines for interment, March 11th, 1862. They formed the vanguard of that ghastly train of stricken and dead soldiers, whose bodies are reposing in every burial place in the County! The

solemnities attending the funeral ceremonies in this city will never be forgotten by those who witnessed them.

Major General M. M. Crocker was born in Johnson county, Indiana, February, 6, 1830. He was educated at the Military Academy at West Point, after which he studied law. He came to Des Moines in the spring of 1855, and practiced his profession until he went into the army in 1861. His brilliant military qualities made his promotion rapid. He died at Washington City, in the summer of 1865, and his body was brought home for burial. In his younger days, he provided for his widowed mother, sisters, and brothers in their indigence. As a citizen, he was honorable and exemplary; as a lawyer, he was accomplished and popular; as a son, husband, and father, he was affectionate and devoted; as a soldier, he was brave even to rashness; as an officer, he was capable and chivalrous; and as a sufferer from disease, he was always hopeful and patient.

Colonel Noah W. Mills, brother of Frank and Jacob Mills of Des Moines, was born in Montgomery county, Indiana, June 21, 1834. He defrayed his own expenses while attending Wabash College. Becoming a printer, he associated himself in business with his brother in this city in 1856. He went to the army as Lieutenant of Company D, and had just succeeded the lamented Colonel Baker in command of the Regiment at the battle of Corinth, when a wound received in the foot terminated his life, Sunday afternoon at sundown, October 12, 1862. He was truly a christian soldier and patriot, the fragrance of whose precious memory remains with those who knew him, and knew him but to love him.

Captain S. H. Lunt, a true soldier and gallant officer, died of disease at Mobile, Alabama, July 28, 1865. He enlisted as a private very, early in the war.

Lieutenant John Watson, an Englishman by birth, once Marshal of Des Moines, became Second Lieutenant of

Company F, Thirteenth Iowa Infantry, and died April 9, 1862, from a wound received at the battle of Shiloh. He was a brick-layer, and helped to build Sherman Block, and the Court House in Des Moines. His devotion to General Crocker as a friend, was unbounded. Just before his death, he desired that his dog, which had followed him affectionately through all the perils of his military experience, should, along with his gun, be sent to Alexander Bowers of this city, as the only testimonial of his friendship which he was able to offer. From some cause, the presents were not forwarded.

Lieutenant Robert Allen, Jun., nephew of B. F. Allen, and son of Gen. Robert Allen of the Regular Army, enlisted as a private in Company D, at the age of twenty. He was soon promoted to a First Lieutenancy in the First U. S. Cavalry, Army of the Potomac. He was wounded at the battle of Fair Oaks, was captured, and taken to Libby Prison, Richmond, where his wounded limb was amputated. He was then exchanged, and died shortly afterward in New York, from the effects of the wound and a second amputation. He was a scholarly young man, and beloved by all who knew him.

Orderly George F. Bachelder, a brave and faithful soldier, detailed to serve with the First Alabama Cavalry, was killed by ambushed enemies, near Rome, Ga., Sunday, July 17, 1864.

James Edwin Robbins, a splendid fighter in a dozen battles, was killed by foes in ambush on the Tennessee river in 1864.

Thomas Stewart Birch, of Saylor Grove, a pious and admirable young soldier, who read the Bible through while in the army, died suddenly of disease of the heart, after having stood guard all the previous night at Corinth, August 8, 1862.

J. M. Moles, formerly well known in Des Moines, was

killed instantly by a ball in the temple, at the battle of Corinth, Saturday, October 4, 1862. He left a young wife, to whom he had been married but a short time.

In addition to the above names are the following: Sergeant Bradley Greene, a young man of fine character, died at Newtonia, Mo., October 8, 1862, of a wound received near that place from concealed enemies. Casper S. Brady, of Saylor Grove, a childlike, innocent drummer-boy, and a native of Iowa, died of erysipelas, caused by a wound in the knee, received at the battle of Donelson. Handsome marble stones were placed at the head and foot of his grave by his parents, in Saylor Grove Cemetery. Andrew Slatten, an eccentric young lawyer of East Des Moines, and at one time Justice of the Peace in Lee Township, died of wounds received at Donelson, during the latter part of April, 1862. His remains lie beside those of Weeks and Doty in Woodland Cemetery. Sergeant Hiram Calvin Cook, a young man of great personal worth, died of abscess of the lungs, at New Hartford, Conn., March 28, 1862. Armin Young died of consumption, February 12, 1862. Austin B. Rush, who learned the printing trade with Will Porter in Des Moines in 1857, died at Vicksburg in 1862. He was Hospital Steward at the time of his death. He is very well remembered by the old citizens of the county. Adjutant Joel Tuttle, of Company F, Second Infantry, died at St. Louis, May 13, 1862. He was a brother of Gen. J. M. Tuttle, and his remains were interred in Woodland Cemetery, where a fine monument was erected to his memory.

James H. Ewing, of the Third Iowa Infantry, was killed in the battle of Shiloh, April 6th, 1862. He had just been chosen Second Lieutenant, but his commission failed to reach him before his death. John Harrison Smith, Sergeant of the same Regiment, was killed in the same battle. He had been in the Mexican war, and served his country faith-

fully and well. John Lewis Woods, Third Iowa, was mortally wounded at Shiloh on the 6th of April, 1862, and died on the 9th of the same month.

COMPANY "E," FOURTH INFANTRY, &C.

This company was mustered into service at Council Bluffs, August 8th, 1861. Its commanding officers were Capt. H. H. Griffiths, and Lieutenants W. S. Simmons and Isaac Whicher. The Adjutant of the Regiment was James A. Williamson, who came to East Des Moines in May, 1855. He was associated for a time, in the practice of law, with M. M. Crocker, and afterward went to merchandising in the city. He became Colonel of the Fourth Infantry, by virtue of meritorious services. In the charge at Chicasaw bayou, which was a perfect death-storm to our soldiers, he displayed, as he did on all other occasions of a like character, the utmost coolness and gallantry, leading his men amid a shower of hostile bullets. He is now Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington City, and enjoys the rank of Brigadier-General, which he worthily won in his country's defense.

Captain H. H. Griffiths was transferred to the First Iowa Battery, May 15th, 1862. He was, after the war closed, elected Clerk of the District Court of Polk County, as our Election Record shows. He was a practical and accomplished officer in military times, and was an efficient clerk. He is still a resident of Des Moines. Captain W. S. Simmons, who succeeded Capt. Griffiths in command of Company E, was a private, at one time connected with the publication of the *Homestead* newspaper. He is now living in Ohio.

The other officers of this Company were, John E. Sell, Seldon C. Treat, Emerson Bramhall, Richard Ross, Felix T. Gandy; Assistant Surgeons, Alex Shaw and D. Beach. Sergeant Jas. A. Moore, a lawyer by profession, well known in

Des Moines, was drowned while attempting to step from the steamer Hannibal City, into a barge, August 12th, 1861. He was clerk in the United States Land Office in 1857. Francis P. Yokoner, a printer by trade, a German, and a young man of rare accomplishments, died of disease at Rolla, Missouri, October 12th, 1861. He left a wife at Des Moines, to whom he had been married a very brief time.

James N. Needham, of Saylor Township, died of pneumonia at Rolla, January 4th, 1862. Sergeant Edwin Wesley Barnum and Hiram Cornish, the former of whom left a young wife at Des Moines, were killed at Pea Ridge, March 7th, 1862. Oliver Perry Kelley, James Alfred Mott, and Hiram D. Cornish, all started to war from under the same roof in Walnut Township, the first of whom was killed on the 28th of June, 1864, at Kenesaw Mountain. Mott was killed at the siege of Vicksburg, by a sharpshooter; and Cornish, as stated, at Pea Ridge. Jeptha W. Bell was wounded at Pea Ridge, and died Sunday, March 9th, 1862. For some time he had been acting Adjutant's Clerk. He was buried in the same grave with Barnum and Cornish. Samuel H. James and John C. James, brothers, gave their lives to their country. The former was mortally wounded at Pea Ridge, and the latter died of disease at Des Moines in 1864. Henry A. Barrett was wounded at Pea Ridge, and died when but fifteen years of age, at Cassville, Mo., April 12th, 1862. Gerard M. C. Case, a drummer boy, fifteen years of age, was killed by the accidental discharge of a pistol, May 24th, 1862. His father, Larned Case, came to Polk County in 1847, settling on Agency Prairie. Reuben P. Billsland died of disease on the hospital boat, Die Vernon, near Helena, Ark., January 19th, 1863. His brothers, Isaac and James, were also soldiers in the Union army, the latter dying after his return from the war. Wm. Prichard died of disease at Helena, Ark., Dec. 1st, 1862.

George Gentle died a prisoner at Andersonville, August

8th, 1864. Benjamin Crow and John Lewis Crow, two of four brothers in the army, all of Walnut Township, died in the service, the former in Andersonville prison, and the latter at Nashville, Tennessee, February 26th, 1865, of disease, when but fifteen years old. Robert S. Yount, brother-in-law of Dr. W. H. Ward of this city, died at home September 29th, 1864. Cornelius M'Kean died November 26th, 1864, at Louisville, Kentucky. Thomas Costello, an Irishman by birth, died in Texas, while trying to rejoin his regiment. Lawrence A. Gregg, Seventh Iowa, died at Belmont, Mo., November 7th, 1861. Joseph B. Evans, same regiment, was killed at Belmont the same date. He was a brother-in-law of Newton Lamb, one of the pioneers of Agency Prairie.

TENTH IOWA INFANTRY, ETC.

The officers, Chaplains, and Surgeons belonging to the regiment from Polk County, are as follows: Nathaniel McCally, Dr. J. C. Bennett, Robert Lusby, Wm. P Davis, Jno. O. Skinner, Ebenezer E. Howe, C J. Clark, Jno. G. Hanna, Hezekiah Van Dorn, William G. Swim, Josiah Hopkins, William P. Meekins, Jonathan J. Wright, Geo. M. Bentley, Steele Kenworthy, John W. Wright, Julian Bausman, Wm. Rahm, and William C. Baylies. Dr. W. P. Davis, Regimental Surgeon, was for many years a resident of Des Moines. He was a large, portly man, finely educated and accomplished. He served his county in both branches of the General Assembly. He was a prominent member of Fifth Street M. E. Church, and died in 1866, lamented by all who knew him. His son, John S. Davis, member of Company A, (34th) and Hospital Steward, a genial and pleasant young man, died at Chicago, February 11th, 1863 Captain Robert Lusby, clerk for many years in the employ of Mills & Co., died at Fort Sumner, New Mexico, from poison accidentally taken, February 20th, 1865. At the

time of his death he was on General Crocker's staff. He was a brave, good man, and a capable officer.

Dr. J. C. Bennett, first Major of the Tenth, was a Mormon General at one time, belonging to the Nauvoo Legion. He was one of the early inhabitants of Polk City. We refer to him elsewhere. Josiah Hopkins, of Hopkins' Grove, was an efficient soldier and a devoted Chaplain. He was one of the first to respond to his government's call for troops.

The privates of Company A, reported dead, are William Spencer, Caswell Murray, Gideon and Isaac Fletcher, Edward S. Dinwiddie, George W. Courtney, Stephen S. Bean, John Baker, John Bard, James Lewis, Isaac Nussbaum, Thomas and Andrew Murray, Lemuel Terrill, John T. Rule, Sergeant Peter B. Mishler, Jonathan Williams, and George Skidmore. Want of space forbids farther amplification in reference to these dead heroes.

The dead of Company B, same regiment, are, George M. Bentley, John F. Fink, William F. Stanton, Robert Overton, Thomas H. Reed, John Keeney, Jacob K. Davis, Jerome Updergraph, and Ephraim Pierson.

The dead of Company G, are Joseph Miles and John Lafayette Replogle. The dead of Company H, is Sergeant Oliver O. Mosier, brother of the talented and genial shorthand Reporter, C. A. Mosier. The dead of Company E, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, are Robert Lindsley, Robert Woodward, and John L. Milton.

COMPANY B, FIFTEENTH IOWA INFANTRY, ETC.

This Company was organized in July, 1861, with Wilson T. Smith and A. G. Studer, of Des Moines, commanding officers. Captain Smith has been a resident of Des Moines, a score of years. He is a gentleman of fine address, and he was a competent officer. A. G. Studer was a brave and fine officer, having been educated at a military school in his

native country, Switzerland. He is now on a Federal Embassy in that country. The commissioned officers of the Company, were, W. T. Smith, Adolphus G. Studer, Chris. E. Lanstrum, William H. Goodrell, David King, Rees Wilkins, John S. Green, and Robert Lyon.

The list of the dead is as follows: Sergeants William Stanberry and George L. Reese; Corporal Jacob R. Kelsey, Charles Beekman, Henry P. Taylor, Conrad Wertzel, Benjamin F. Stoughton, John W. Guthrie, William L. Close, Andrew J. Burge, Samuel Mardis, Jasper N. Newland, LeRoy S. Conner, James H. Mathias, Anson D. Morgan, David R. Winters, John S. Green, Samuel and Joel Foster, Calvin Lloyd, Levi Wells, M. J. H. Parker, and Franklin Spotts. All these soldiers, or nearly all of them, were from townships outside of the city.

Levi R. Hester, Sixteenth Iowa, died of wounds received at Iuka.

COMPANY F, SIXTEENTH IOWA, ETC.

Madison R. Laird, youngest brother of Frank and Jacob M. Laird of this city, was eight months in a rebel prison from which he escaped. He died December 4, 1866. John W. Dewey, Q. M. Sergeant, and Thomas J. Allaway, are also numbered among the dead of this Company; also J. F. Redman of Company K.

COMPANY B, SEVENTEENTH, ETC.

The list of dead is as follows: William M. Gipson, Amos Kiser, Francis M. Wakefield, Wilson Rickbaugh, Mahlon Freeman, and Daniel Hardsaw; also, John W. M. Young, of Company K; also, William J. McCoy, Nathan Thornton, and Jason L. Ellis, of the Eighteenth Regiment.

Of the Twenty-Second Regiment, the list is: Isaac W. Winterhalter, Samuel Story, and James P. McCullough.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

This Regiment rendezvoused at Des Moines, and was mustered into United States service September 19th, 1862. The following citizens of Polk County received commissions in this Regiment: Charles J. Clark, Leonard B. Houston, William H. Ward, Matthew C. Brown, Joel M. Walker, Robert W. Cross, William Merrill, Arthur J. Barton, Theodore G. Cree, Stephen Waterbury, Henry Crabtree, Chancey A. Williams, Francis Weitman, James C. Gregg, J. A. T. Hull, Benjamin Jennings, Lyle A. Garrett, William H. Downs and William E. Houston. This list embraces officers whose names are as familiar as household words to our people. They were men who did their whole duty on the tented field, and in the battle storm; and in the walks of civil life they are known and honored of their fellow men.

The names of the dead are: Alfred M Lyon, Charles S. Hepburn, Francis M. Burgett, Andre Thompson, John B. and James A. Saylor, Donald C. Sharp, George C. Stevens, William Mosgrove, John Virtue, John Filmer, Henry H. Beeson, William P. Johnson, Benj. F. Nussbaum, Geo. M. Nicholas, Randolph Foster Harber, Geo. W. Grigsby, Laurence Leonard, Enoch Beighler, Daniel Condit, Elijah Koons, Henry J. Millard, Thomas McDowell, Benjamin W. Henkle, Clark Wilson, Lorenzo D. Dunwoody, John Mercer, Sergeant William Benell, John Milton Juvenall, Benj. P. West, Smith C. Robison, William R. Harvey, John Brown, David Melson, John Gardner Webb, Lemuel M. Carison, Sergeant James O'Bleness, Lieut. Wm. H. Downs, William and John T. Bull, Samuel Enfield, Sergeant Wm. Kysar, James Scarbrough, Wm. H. Vice, Lewis M. Daily, Henry C. West, Corwin Brown Frederick, Porter N. Darling, David and William Henry Mattern, John W. and Elisha C. Sherrill, John H. Journey, William Sunday, John

Q. Jameson, Corporal Wm. Wilson, Jacob L. Springer, Luther W. Stanhope, Robert H. Fink, Jno. M. Rosecrans, Jno. N. Pollock, Sergeant Daniel J. and Archibald Sturgeon, George W. Fox, Enoch Harlan, Sergeant Jacob B. Moon, Jonathan W. Powers, Jacob Boyer, Richard Hammer, Gustavus V. Cowgill, and Thomas J. Hudson.

The names also of Emery Jones and John Wilson Trent, of the Twenty-ninth Regiment, we report in this connexion.

The dead of the Thirty-Second are: Elias Modlin, Francis Luellen, and George H. Dunlap. Of the Thirty-Third, Hance Ferguson.

THIRTY–FOURTH.

Colonel G. W. Clark, breveted Brigadier General at the close of the war, was a lawyer at Indianola at the time he went into the service. Subsequently he was appointed U. S. Marshal for the District of Iowa. He is a gentleman of fine legal and military ability. The dead of his Regiment are John S. Davis and James M. Elliott.

THIRTY-NINTH.

Company B and I, of this regiment, were organized in Polk County, and were mustered into the service November 24th, 1862. The Regiment rendezvoused at Des Moines. Its commissioned officers belonging to our County were, Col. Joseph M. Griffiths, Adjutant George C. Tichenor, Captains John H. Dykeman, Andrew T. Blodgett, Augustus Yerger and Robert C. Hunter; Lieutenants Franklin R. Thurbur, William A Patterson and Erastus Scott.

The dead of this Regiment, are Capt. A. T. Blodgett, killed with Lieut. Col. Redfield at Altoona, Oct. 5th, 1864, Sergeant Robert Francis Ward, William H. Chamberlain; Nicholas W. Simmons, Hudson Harrison, Thomas O. Taylor, Samuel E. Thornton, Francis Marion Lowe, Daniel T.

Keeney, Henry H. Elliott, Andrew Cefley, John E. Mills, Cornelius S. Gaddis, James G. Leonard, Isaac Miller, Corporal William B. Sanford, Joshua Adamson, Lawson A. Smith; of the Forty-Fourth, John Henry Rittgers.

FORTY-SEVENTH.

Company F of this Regiment was organized in 1864, under the direction of Major George J. North, Military and Private Secretary of Governor Stone. He died about the close of the war. The names of commissioned officers of Company F. belonging to our County, are Maj. George J. North, Capt. David J. Pattee, Lieutenants Weldon England and Josiah M. Vale.

The dead of this Company, are William B. Herring, Millard F. Rollins, John L. McClelland, Miles D. Mattern, Simon M. Chenowith, Edward W. Peet, William C. Sampson, Lorenzo L. Robinson, Benjamin A. Brooks, Theodore F. Vestal, Thor Fatland, and Felix McCarty.

FIRST INFANTRY—COLORED.

The names of the dead, are Peter Callahan, G. Robinson, W. Arnold, W. Bell, W. Clay, Fred Douglass and A. Pratt.

SECOND CAVALRY, ETC.

Company D of this Regiment was organized in Des Moines, and was mustered into service August 30th, 1861. Its commanding officers were Capt. G. C. Graves, and Lieutenants Gustavus Washburn and J. E. Jewett. The last two mentioned are dead, the former dying at Des Moines, and the latter at Iowa City.

The other commissioned officers were Capt Francis M. Griffith, Lieut. Samuel J. Dangler, Samuel Noel and Daniel Hall.

The names of the dead are: Augustus J. Thinis, Ephriam Walker, David M. Cockerham, Chapin Duncan, Israel Har-

den Howard, Henry H. Douthit, H. H. Helton, Simon S. Sisley, Perry Rickabaugh, Delanah Johnson, Jos. H. Moon, Lieut. Gustavus Washburn. Of Third Cavalry, Scott Thrailkill. Of Fourth Cavalry, Richard Ashworth and John Q. Jewett. Of Fifth Cavalry, Dr. P. M. Kerlin, who had been a physician at Rising Sun. Of the Seventh Cavalry, Jacob Kesler. Of Ninth, James Q. Salisbury.

EIGHTH CAVALRY.

The officers belonging to Polk County were: Capts. W. H. Hoxie and Henry Moreland, and Lieut. Eli Keeler.

The names of the dead are: Orrin Mitchell, Corp. Thos. McClelland, James H. Horton, Francis Bradley, Thomas McCall, John B. Huzhart, Moses Krowzer, and William W. Derickson.

FIRST BATTERY.

This was commanded by Captain H. H. Griffiths, of Des Moines. The names of the dead are: Lieutenant Selah M. Titus, William Seldon, George Howard, Wm. H. Callender, Wm. McMichael, Harmon T. Myerhoff, John Johnson, Jon D. Callender, and Robert F. Reeder.

SECOND BATTERY, ETC.

The names of the dead are: Romulus Bullotph, John Jones, John Kuntz, and Peter H. Lee; of the Eighty-Ninth Illinois Volunteers, James Nicholas; of the Twenty-First Missouri, Geo. R. Spencer; of the Second Nebraska, Wm. A. McClain; of the Ninety-Seventh Ohio, Lieutenant Geo. F. Jack, drowned in Raccoon river, with Asher Holcomb, April 19th, 1867; of First Pennsylvania Light Artillery, Benjamin M. Orwig; of the Ninety-Seventh Ohio, George Corwin Goodrell.

OUR SOLDIERS.

According to the Census Report of 1862—the second year of the war—the population of Polk County was 12,925, of whom 2,601 were voters. The number of volunteers, or enlisted men, credited to the county, as appears from the Adjutant General's Report, was 1,500, or considerably more than half the entire voting population in 1862.

In addition to the soldiers regularly credited to the county, there were the drafted men, and quite a number of our citizens besides who while absent from home, enlisted in other places, and who were, therefore, credited to other localities. Comparatively speaking, there were but few drafted men; for a large majority of our communities were so patriotic in their enlistments, that a draft was usually rendered unnecessary.

From the best data, however, to which we have had access, we deem it safe, as an approximate result, to place the number of our soldiers, during the few years of the war, at two thousand. If we have made a misstatement, it has been we think, in under-estimating the number. Of the 2,000 soldiers who went out from us to the front, periling their lives for the salvation of the Republic, two hundred and eighty lost their lives, either from wounds or disease. Without entering into an elaborate comparison on the subject, we feel safe in the statement here, that no other county in Iowa, can give a better showing than ours, of its earnest and practical patriotism.

RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

The citizens of this county displayed extraordinary kindness and liberality, not only to the soldiers themselves, but to their families, during the war for the Union. Several times, the County and City, in their corporate capacities, voted generous sums for these purposes; but it was reserved

to the people as individuals, to show what can be occomplished by spontaneous action in the interest of suffering humanity. Besides donations in money, scores of loads of wood were brought in by the farmers, and deposited at the doors of needy families.

So great was the munificence displayed towards the soldiers at the front, that they sent back word to stop the supplies, stating at the same time, that if their friends at home would continue to be cared for, it was all they asked. They thanked our people, again and again, for the great kindness of which their parents, wives, and children, had been constant recipients. The ladies established different associations, the great object of which was to relieve those distresses which had been caused by war. Many concerts and festivals were given, especially during the winter seasons. The Old Folks, in their quaint, antique costumes, gave a series of humorous entertainments at the Court House and other places, the financial results of which were religiously devoted to the relief of soldiers' families.

The first regular meeting for the relief of soldiers' families, was held at the Savery House, December 15th, 1864, with Mayor W. H. Leas in the chair, and H. L. Whitman as Secretary. The committees representing the different wards, were, Dr. H. L. Whitman, G. W. Cleveland, Major Hoyt Sherman, Lieutenant G. Washburn, Rev. J. M. Chamberlain, Mrs. Frank Butler, Dr. M. P. Turner, and Mrs. Wm. Galbraith Gen. W. D. Wilson, C. C. Howell and H. Stephenson, were appointed to confer with the committee appointed on the 13th inst. Rev. J. M. Chamberlain, Gen. Wilson, Dr. Whitman, and C. C. Howell were appointed a committee to report some systematic plan of action, by which the objects of the meeting could be attained.

The first business meeting for the election of officers, was held at the residence of Lieut. Washburn, December 17th, 1864, with Mayor Leas in the chair. All the wards but one

were represented. The following officers were elected: President, Mayor Leas; Vice Presidents, Dr. T. K. Brooks and A. B. Woodbury; Secretary, Wm. Duane Wilson. The Ladies' Aid Societies, and the Womans' League were understood as co-operating with the Soldiers' Relief Association. The following committee was appointed to secure donations &c, for a festival in aid of the soldiers, to be held at Des Moines December 31st, 1864: G. W. Cleveland, W. D. Wilson, Dr. Jas. Wright, Mrs. Col. Mills, Mrs. Lieut. Washburn and Mrs. W. H. Holmes. The permanent officers of the Association were as follows: President, W. H. Leas; Vice Presidents, Dr. Brooks and A. B. Woodbury; Treasurer, F. R. West; Secretary, W. D. Wilson; Ward Committees, Mrs. F. R. West, Mayor Leas, Dr. H. L. Whitman, Mrs. Frank Laird, Mrs. Col. Mills, H. Stephenson, Mrs. Carpenter, Mrs. W. D. Wilson, Rev. Chamberlain, Mrs. Tidrick, Mrs. W. Galbraith, Dr. Turner, Mrs. J. A. Harvey, Mrs. Lows, Dr. Wright, Mrs. A. A. D. Jones, Mrs. Holmes, Dr. Shaw, Mrs. J. W. Cattell, Mrs. W. F. Burgett and J. M. Moody.

The net proceeds of the great festival for the benefit of the soldiers' families, given on the 31st day of December, 1864, were $4,245.28. The final exhibit made out by the Secretary, and published in the STATE REGISTER, December 1st, 1865, shows that the Association obtained from all sources, $7,261.35. It is a subject of regret with us, that our limited space does not permit us to give a more extended report of the beneficent deeds of this Association. Suffice it to say that individuals, local organizations and churches, were stimulated to an activity in behalf of the destitute, which carried cheer and comfort to many a desolate heart, and mitigated as far as human agency could accomplish such a result, the miseries which the great civil war had produced in the families of our County.

U. S. PENSION OFFICE.

The State is divided into three Pension districts, the headquarters of which are located respectively at Des Moines, Dubuque, and Fairfield. The Des Moines District embraces the following counties: Adair, Audubon, Boone, Buena Vista, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Cherokee, Clay, Crawford, Dallas, Dickinson, Emmet, Green, Guthrie, Hardin, Harrison, Humboldt, Ida, Iowa, Jasper, Johnson, Kossuth, Lyon, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Polk, Pottawattamie, Poweshiek, Sac, Scott, Shelby, Story, Warren, Webster, Winnebago, Woodbury, and Wright—in all forty-nine counties.

The Des Moines Pension Office was established in 1865, at which time Peter Myers was appointed agent. He served until 1866, when Maj. J. D. Thompson, of Hardin county, succeeded by appointment of President Johnson. In 1869, he was superceded by Stewart Goodrell, of Des Moines, who died in office Nov. 11th, 1872.

The present incumbent, Hon. B. F. Gue, became Pension Agent in November, 1872. This gentleman, who succeeded in office the popular and lamented Stewart Goodrell, had represented Scott county in both branches of the General Assembly, and had occupied the position of Lt. Governor. He is faithfully and efficiently discharging the duties of the office to which he has been called.

The records of the office give no report of the disbursements which were made during the administrations of Messrs. Myers and Thompson. During the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1871, Mr. Goodrell paid out to pensioners, $287,260.75. The total amount for the same year, paid out in the entire State, was $788,855.00. The number of pensioners in the State at that time was: Invalids, 3,258;

widows and orphans, 3,725; soldiers of the war of 1812, 9; total, 6,992.

Mr. Goodrell paid out during the year 1872, $370,533.29. The number of pensioners at the end of this fiscal year in Iowa, had increased to 7,726, of whom 350 were soldiers and widows of the war of 1812; all of whom were placed on the pension roll, by act of February 14th, 1871, without reference to disability.

During the remainder of 1872, up to the time of Mr. Goodrell's death, on the 11th of November, he paid out to pensioners, $89,611.90. For the balance of that year, Mr Gue paid out $219,017.30; total for the year, $308,629.20.

The number of pensioners in the State, June 30th, 1873, was 8,043; of whom 3,669 were invalids, 3,972 were widows and dependent relatives, and 402 were of the war of 1812. The number in this District was 2,419.

Mr. Gue paid out in 1874, ending June 30th, $321,049.65. The number of pensioners that year was 8,046 ; of whom 3,872 were invalids, 3,796 were widows and dependent relatives, and 378 were of the war of 1812. There were in this District 2,215 pensioners.

Mr. Gue paid out for the fiscal year, 1875, $326,647.85, to 2,300 pensioners. The whole number in the State was 8,061, of whom 4,024 were invalids, 3,701 widows and dependent relatives, and 336 of the war of 1812.

The amount paid for 1876, ending June 30th, was $317,953.57, to 2,433 pensioners.

In the future there will be a rapid decrease in the number of pensioners, as a great number of children now receiving pensions, will reach the age of sixteen, at which time this aid will cease.

Eliza Scarritt, of Iowa Falls, Hardin county, aged 86, widow of a private in the Revolutionary War, is the only pensioner of the kind in this District.

GRAND MILITARY REUNION.

The most magnificent military reunion in peace times, occurred at Des Moines in 1870, commencing on the 30th day of August, and lasting several days. It was made an extraordinary success by the executive genius of Adjutant General N. B. Baker. It was estimated that 75,000 people, including 30,000 soldiers, participated in the festivities of the great occasion. General W. T. Sherman was the recognized hero of the reunion, whose presence at any point in the vast multitude, was the signal for the display of true-hearted enthusiasm from the boys, and from thousands of civic spectators. The different Iowa Regiments, though worn and wasted by time and the desolations of war, were reorganized under their respective commanders, and marched through the streets, forming a magnificent exhibition.

The church buildings, and other available structures, were chartered for the accommodation of the vast multitude. The packing house of Murphy & Co., was converted into a great eating establishment run by steam, at which twelve Iowa beeves were cooked at once, and sixty-four barrels of coffee were served up at one dinner! In all, one hundred and seven beeves gave up the ghost, and four hundred and ninety-eight barrels of coffee, or 28,424 gallons, were imbibed! The tonnage of coffee taken from this place to camp, amounted to 189,362 pounds.

The soldiers camped by companies and regiments, as they did in the war; and all the vacant grounds East of the Capitol, extending to the residence of Wesley Redhead, were occupied as a great encampment. The STATE REGISTER, from which we have obtained the materials of this article, characterizes this meeting of soldiers and citizens as the grandest demonstration ever known in modern times!

BOARD OF ENROLLMENT.

The Board of Enrollment of this District had its head quarters, during the war, at Des Moines. The Provost Marshal was Captain S. C. Brownell, whose residence is now at Elmira, New York. Surgeon Finley of Decatur county, and J. N. Cornish of Fremont county, were the other members of the Board. Mr. Cornish resigned, and was succeeded by Col. Hedges of Sidney. Mr. Strow, now of Fort Dodge, was the Clerk of the Board.

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE.

The reunion of the Army of the Tennessee took place at Des Moines September 29th and 30th, 1875. Among the dignitaries who were present were President Grant and suit, Secretary Belknap, and General W. T. Sherman and daughter. General Sherman, the old veteran of the army of the Tennessee, and the President, as well as the other distinguished gentlemen in attendance were received with a warm welcome. Elaborate preparations had been made to render the occasion one of rare local interest.

Arches trimmed with flags and evergreens, were constructed in triumphal order, across Walnut and Fourth Streets, and Court Avenue. The public buildings, business houses, and many private residences, were festooned with flags, and illuminated in the evening in honor of the occasion. The residence of Hoyt Sherman and the surrounding grounds, were grandly illuminated; and at this place, General Sherman and his daughter, who were the guests of their relative, were serenaded by the city bands

Next day the children of the public schools convened by invitation at the Opera House, to listen to a discourse from the President.

MILITARY COMPANIES.

There are in the county five Companies and one Battery

of the Third Iowa State Militia, of which F. Olmsted is Colonel; N. Townsend, Lieutenant Colonel; N. H. Ball, Major; M. Mahon, Adjutant; J. M. Walker, Quartermaster; Dr. G. P. Hannawalt, Surgeon; Philo Case, Drum Major; and A. Wessel, Fife Major. This regiment was organized September 1, 1875.

Company A, organized December 8, 1868, is called Olmsted State Guards. Its first commissioned officers were, F. Olmsted, Captain; N. H. Williams, First Lieutenant; Frank Clark, Second Lieutenant. The non-commissioned officers were: W. C. Story, 1st Sergeant; D. K. Jones, 2d Sergeant; James Tunice, 3d Sergeant; F. A. Shepard, 4th Sergeant; L. H. Bradshaw, 5th Sergeant; William Fenwick, 1st Corporal; C. A. Ferguson, 2d Corporal; Ed Pettitt, 3d Corporal; and John Spellman, 4th Corporal. There were thirteen charter members on the roll, of whom two still belong to the company. Of this company, which is the oldest in the State under the law organizing it, there are about seventy members. Since the organization, seven hundred persons have at different times belonged to it. Only two deaths have occurred, those of Lieutenant John Spellman, and 1st Sergeant M. C. Story, the former dying of a cold contracted at Council Bluffs while on duty, and the latter of a wound received at the Des Moines celebration on the Fourth of July, 1874, while engaged in a sham battle. The company is in a prosperous condition. It has made a fine record as to discipline and effectiveness; and it has won several prize banners, which are always ready to go to any rival company which may surpass it in the perfection of drill.

The present officers are: E. J. Ulrich, Captain; W. B. Keffer, 1st Lieutenant; Warren M. Walker, 2d Lieutenant; S. E. Cate, 1st Serg't; W. Wightman, 2d Serg't; Harry Irwin 3d Serg't; Wm. B. Carson, 4th Serg't; Harry Morris, 5th Serg't; James Olmsted, 1st Corporal; C. E. Vaughn, 2d

Corporal; John B. Loughlan, 3d Corporal; Harry Porter, 4th Corporal.

Sarsfield Guards, Co. B, was organized March 18th, 1875, with James Murphy as Captain; M. Mahon, 1st Lieutenant, and John Shanly as 2d Lieutenant. A majority of the members of this company belonged originally to the Crocker Veteran Guards, organized November, 1871, of which J. H. Smith was Captain; W. L. Davis, 1st Lieutenant; and A. E. Puffer, 2d Lieutenant. Captain Smith resigned February 2d, 1872, and was succeeded by W. L. Davis.

The Olmsted Guards, and the Crocker Veteran Guards, numbering in all about sixty men, were ordered by Governor Carpenter, November 17th, 1872, to proceed to Council Bluffs to assist the local authorities in preserving the peace, at the time when there was a prize ring exhibition between Tom Allen, of St. Louis, and Hogan, of Omaha The presence of the Des Moines companies drove the pugilists fifteen miles from the place at which they had intended to fight, and finally to the Nebraska side of the river, before they had time to complete their entire programme. The companies did their duty effectually.

The Belknap Guards, Company E, Grant township, was organized October 20th, 1873. The officers are: J. K. Dean, Captain; George Curran, 1st Lieutenant; and John K. Taylor, 2d Lieutenant.

The Scandanavian State Guards, Company D, was organized February 24th, 1876, of which Albert Peterson is Captain; George Barquist, 1st Lieutenant; and Henry Bakman, 2d Lieutenant. This company has a membership of forty, and is in a prosperous condition.

The Valley State Guards, Valley township, Company F, was organized August 8th, 1874. Its first officers were: Wm. A. Fenwick, Captain; Jacob B. Lawson, 1st Lieutenant; and Macy Carter, 2d Lieutenant. Its present officers are: Jacob B. Lawson, Captain; Henry Snodgrass, 1st Lieut.

Baker Battery consists of a detail from the Olmsted State Guards, and is commanded by 1st Lieutenant John D. Rowan, who was commissioned January 3d, 1876.

The Railroad Volunteers were organized November 22d, 1873. H. F. Royce, Captain; Wm. H. Quick, 1st Lieutenant; and C. D. Sprague, 2d Lieutenant.

STATE ARSENAL.

The State Arsenal, built of iron, brick, and red rock stone, two stories high, with marble floor and iron stairway, was erected on First street in 1867. It contains many interesting relics of the war, and all the military archives of the State. N. B. Baker was made Adjutant General of Iowa in 1861, and has held this office ever since. It is a well understood fact that the records of his office have been kept from first to last in a style which challenges admiration. His superior executive ability has been displayed here, as well as in all other positions to which his fellow citizens have called him. The affection with which our soldiers regard him is indeed extraordinary; but he well deserves it all.

Gen. N. B. Baker is a native of New Hampshire, having been born in 1819. At one time he was Governor of that State; and in 1856 he removed to Clinton, Iowa. In the fall of 1860, he was chosen to represent Clinton County in the Legislature. From that time his name has been intimately and honorably associated with our County and our State.

CENTENNIAL FOURTH.

The celebration at Des Moines, on the Fourth of July last, of the hundredth anniversary of American Independence, eclipsed all previous demonstrations of the kind. The procession which traversed the streets, and marched to the Fair Grounds, was of the most ingenious and impressive character, made up of all trades and professions, distributed

in proper order under efficient marshals. The number in attendance was very large, variously estimated at from 20,000 to 30,000. Except the military reunion in 1870, it was the grandest demonstration we have ever had in Polk County.

The immense concourse at the Fair Grounds listened with rapt attention to an eloquent oration from Col. Montgomery, of Council Bluffs, followed by a classic address from Prof. Hutchins. The exercises were interspersed in a spirited way ,with martial music and appropriate melody from the band. Gov. Kirkwood was president of the day; Capt. Collins was Chief Marshal, and Rev. A. L. Frisbie, of the Congregational Church, offered the introductory prayer.

The day was very sultry. In the evening an attempt was made to give a grand pyrotechnic display; but a terrific thunder-storm obstructed this branch of the celebration, and made it a failure. On that memorable night, Bird's Run, in the city, became furious, sweeping nearly all its bridges away within the corporation, and destroying property to the value of thousands of dollars. The same storm, developing itself in the shape of a tornado or whirlwind, demolished scores of houses, and destroyed many lives, in Warren and Madison counties. It was a sad termination of the Centennial Fourth!

THE COUNTY.

From the period at which the plow first penetrated the soil, inverting the rich loam of this region, our county has gone on in a career of improvement, almost unparalleled in the history of civilization. At this point, let us take a retrospective glance, for the purpose of instituting a brief, but very suggestive, comparison between the past and present of our experience.

Thirty-three years ago, the Federal soldiers, under Capt. Allen, arrived at this place. This constitutes the first im-

portant epoch in our local history. What pioneer of those times, looking from his standpoint of observation over the broad range of possibilities, ever dreamed in his most sanguine mood, that in less than an average generation of our race, all the townships would be crowded with multitudes of workingmen, changing the face of nature as by a spell of enchantment; and that here too, at the confluence of our two rivers, in the great Centennial year, a city of twenty thousand inhabitants, with its railroads, its manufactories, its populous avenues of trade, and with all the appointments of a great State Capital, would lift its spires and steeples in the bright light of day?

By reference to the Census Reports, for which we are indebted to the politeness of our good Secretary of State, Mr. Young, we find that in the year 1847, one year from the date of organization, the county had a population of 1,792, showing an increase in one year, of 1,492. In 1849 the population was 4,214; in 1850, 4,444; in 1851, 6,000; in 1852, 5,939. The decrease indicated by the last figures had two specific causes, one of which was the depression occasioned by the unprecedented flood of 1851, and the other was the large emigration from Iowa to the new gold fields of California. The fear, too, of hostile invasion from the border tribes of Indians, had, perhaps, something to do in the production of this result.

In 1854, the same and other causes operating to retard growth, our population was 5,368; but in 1856, at which time the spirit of immigration to the West was peculiarly active, we had increased to 9,417, revealing the splendid gain in two years of 4,049. In 1859, right in the midst of the disastrous monetary troubles, our population amounted to 11,238. In, 1863 the inhabitants were augmented to 12,956, notwithstanding the fact that the great Civil War was devastating the country, and decimating the ranks of the people. In 1867, our population had increased to 22,630,

displaying wonderful gain in four years. In 1869, we had 21,768, two-thirds of whom were included in that part of the county lying east of the Des Moines river.

In 1874, the population was 30,892; in 1875, it was 31,558; and now, taking the same ratio of increase which prevailed from 1874 to 1875, we have to-day in Polk county, a population in round numbers of 33,000! When we take into consideration from first to last, the causes which have greatly obstructed our growth, including the flood of '51, the financial pressure of '57, and the late desolating war, it is a subject alike of wonder and congratulation, that our advancement has been so rapid and so enduring. The thought that from the little nucleus of three hundred citizens, distributed over our prairies thirty years ago, grappling with the harsh and rough experiences of pioneer life, our city and county have grown into their present commanding proportions, constrains our hearts, to throb in thankfulness toward those men and women of early days, who through toil and peril, and even through blood, gave to us the vast heritage of prosperity which we now possess and enjoy!

STATE CAPITOL.

At an early period, the question of relocating the State Capitol began to agitate the people. Iowa City, then the seat of government, was situated within a short distance of the eastern boundary; and it became evident that in time, the removal of the State Capitol to a more central point, would be recognized as a popular necessity. In 1849, the Legislature appointed commissioners of relocation, who, in the execution of their trust, overlooking the advantages of Des Moines, selected a verdant site in Jasper county. Not long afterward, the wisdom of their choice was bitterly questioned; and the result was, that, after the new location had been surveyed, and before any improvement was made, it was abandoned to the wildness of primeval nature!

In 1851, bills were introduced into the Legislature, one of which relocated the Capitol at Pella, and another at Fort Des Moines. These bills were lost. In 1853, another bill was introduced into the Senate, fixing the location at Fort Des Moines. It seemed for a time, that this bill would pass, but it was lost on the final vote.

In 1855, a bill fixing the State Capitol within two miles of the Raccoon Fork, passed by a decided majority; and the following Commissioners of Relocation were appointed: Messrs. Pegram of Council Bluffs, J. H. D. Street of Wapello, Stewart Goodrell of Washington, J. A. L. Crookham of Mahaska, and Guy Wells of Lee county.

The bill to which we refer, was approved by Governor Grimes, January 15, 1855. The citizens of the place manifested much liberality and public spirit, in donations of land, etc., for the Capitol.

The present Constitution of the State, which was adopted by popular vote at the August election in 1857, contained a clause which fixed the State Government at our city. October 19th, 1857, Governor Grimes issued his proclamation, announcing that Des Moines was the State Capital, and ordering the archives of the Commonwealth to be removed hither from Iowa City. In December of the same year, the removal was partially accomplished. The State safe, the last to come, was drawn one hundred and twenty miles on two bob-sleds, by ten yoke of oxen, arriving at its destination January 11th, 1858, just in time to be present at the opening of the first session of the General Assembly which convened that month at Des Moines.

A private association, composed of Messrs. W. A. Scott, J. A. Williamson, J. M. Griffith, A. Shaw, T. K. Brooks, and others, was organized in 1855, for the purpose of erecting a State House. The building when completed, was transferred to the State, and it has been occupied ever since as the Capitol. Its site, as well as that of the new edifice, is

situated conspicuously on Capitol Hill in East Des Moines. Some years since, the State took the old Capitol from its owners, releasing them, at the same time, as compensation for the structure, from a certain indebtedness to the School Fund of the Commonwealth, which they had incurred.

NEW CAPITOL.

The bill which made the first appropriation for the erection of the new Capitol was approved by Governor Merrill, April 13th, 1870. Polk County was at that time represented by B. F. Allen in the Senate, and by J. A. Kasson and George W. Jones in the House. The following Commissioners were chosen: Gov. Samuel Merrill, President *ex officio;* G. M. Dodge, James F. Wilson, James Dawson, Simon G. Stein, James O. Crosby, Charles Dudley, Jno. N. Dewey, and Wm. L. Joy. Besides these, there were A. R. Fulton, Secretary; Cochrane & Piquenard, Architects; Jas. Appleyard, Local Superintendent; Frank Pelton, Engineer.

The ceremonies connected with laying the corner stone of the new edifice occurred November 23d, 1871. A large and imposing procession, embracing many of the high dignitaries of the State, was formed under the direction of the Chief Marshal, N. B Baker. Addresses were made by Hon. J. F. Wilson, Governor Merrill, Hon. John A. Kasson, and others. Among the articles deposited in the corner stone were, a copy of the Bible, rosters of Iowa Regiments, many books and newspapers, a large variety of gold, silver, and copper coins, and many other interesting memorials.

The work of excavation commenced in the fall of 1870, and the first stone on the foundation was put in its place, on a bed of concrete masonry, two feet in thickness, August 17th, 1871. The greater portion of the foundation walls was erected ten feet above the concrete in November, 1871.

Up to June 6th, 1876, the State had expended on the new Capitol $850,243.87. It will require more than two millions of dollars to complete this grand structure; but when completed it will rank among the most magnificent State Capitols in the Union.

The Board of Capitol Commissioners are: President, Gov. Kirkwood; Maturin L. Fisher, Jno. G. Foote, Peter A. Dey, R. S. Finkbine; Ed Wright, Secretary. Mr. Finkbine is Superintendent of Construction, and Ed Wright, Assistant Superintendent of Construction; and John G. Foote, Superintendent of Finance.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

In 1843 a road was laid out from Des Moines to Tool's Point, now Monroe, Jasper county; and the following year, Peter Newcomer built a bridge over Four Mile Creek, for which Captain Allen gave him permission to make a claim out on the prairie, four miles east of town. In 1845, the first mail route established communication between Ft. Des Moines and Keokuk, via Tool's Point, Oskaloosa, Eddyville, Ottumwa, and Agency City. The mail was weekly, arriving Wednesdays and departing Thursdays.

In 1846, a horse-ferry, operated by Edward Martin, crossed the Des Moines at Adelphi, over which the Mormon tide of immigration in 1847, en route for Kanesville, or Council Bluffs, was very heavy.

It will be seen by reference to the article on County Government, that for several years after the organization of the County, ferries were employed as the only means to transport persons and vehicles across both rivers. In 1856, the Des Moines river was spanned on Sycamore street by a pontoon bridge. This was followed in the winter of 1857 by a trestle bridge over the same river on Market street, constructed under the direction of Alex. Scott, who died at Pike's Peak a few years since. This structure was unfor-

tunate, being destroyed by the freshet of 1859. It was afterwards reconstructed by J. C. Warner, but in the Spring of 1861, it was finally washed away. No attempts have since been made to construct a similar bridge at that place.

The piers for Court Avenue bridge were erected in 1856; and the superstructure, under the direction of U. B. White, architect, was built in the winter of 1857–8. In time, this bridge began to give evidence of decay, and it was rebuilt by Messrs. White & Turner in 1866. In 1869 this bridge was washed away; and in 1870 new piers were constructed, and the present fine bridge, of the Post Truss model, was erected. It is one of the best structures of the kind in the West, and is under the control of the City Government.

On the 23d day of March, 1866, S. F. Spofford and Frank Laird, Bridge Committee, contracted with T. H. Napier, for $26,000, to construct a bridge of the Howe Truss pattern, across the Des Moines river on Walnut Street, to be finished in six months from that date. On the 3d day of September, in the same year, the bridge was formally accepted by the committee, and Mr. Spofford was the first to cross it with his buggy and span of horses. October 22, 1866, it was open to public travel as a toll bridge.

By the way, Mr. Spofford has in his possession the first twenty cents, and the last twenty cents, fractional currrency, which were taken as toll on that bridge, the last being taken November 3, 1867, at which time the structure was made free to the public. It was then placed under the control of the city government.

The first Walnut street bridge was broken down in 1866, by a drove of horses crossing it; and in 1871, it was followed by the present Iron Bow String Girder, which spans the river at that place. Like the other bridges of Des Moines of the same character, it is controlled by the city, and rates of toll, except for foot passengers, are exacted. The rates, however, are extremely low; and the time is not distant when

all these structures on both rivers, will be made free to the glad public.

About fifteen years ago, the Board of Supervisors for Polk county, gave to Dr. M. P. Turner a permit, with certain stipulations, to build a bridge across Raccon river, near its mouth. In 1862, U. B. White and Dr. Turner erected the first bridge at this place; and in February, 1865, it was swept away by a pressure of ice against it during a freshet. It was rebuilt in July of the same year, by the same parties. This structure did service until it was superceded in 1872 by the present bridge.

The Seventh Street combined railroad and wagon bridge across 'Coon, was erected in 1871.

The bridge for the Rock Island railroad, across the Des Moines river, was built in 1868; and the one for the D. V. R. R., in 1869.

Few counties in the West, if any, have been more liberal in their appropriations for bridges and other internal improvements. Every stream, small and great, which demands improvements of this character, is spanned by durable and economical structures; and although thousands of dollars have been expended in this way, the popular expression is that these investments have been wise and judicious.

The toll collectors for Court Avenue and Walnut street bridges, are I. W. Griffith for the former, who has held the post from the beginning, and Wm. Hallet, for the latter. The collectors for the 'Coon bridges are, William Hall, for Second street bridge, and Matthies Winters, for Seventh street.

MINERAL RESOURCES.

Some of the soldiers stationed at the garrison, are reported to have been the first discoverers of coal in the vicinity of the river Des Moines. It was soon ascertained by practical investigation, that all this region of country belongs

to the great coal measure of the State, and is underlaid by an inexhaustible supply of this mineral, easy of access by the hand of skill and enterprise, and waiting the processes of development in the future. It was certainly a grand act of compensation in nature, to counterbalance our deficiency in timber, by placing just beneath our feet countless tons of coal, to be used as a protection against cold, and as a means of promoting our varied systems of manufactures, all through our coming civilization.

The first coal shaft and stone quarry, were opened by A. N. Hays, and Captain Allen, on the banks of the Des Moines, in 1843. The coal products in this case were but little used, as timber was plentiful.

The coal which existed in such abundance here, and in many other parts of the county, is of the bituminous quality; and for all the purposes to which it is devoted, it is fully equal to the average class of this kind of mineral, found in other parts of the country. It is demonstrated by analysis, that ninety parts out of one hundred of this coal are pure combustible matter.

Our coal companies have greatly multipled in number and importance during the past few years, as statistics will show hereafter; and men of brains and capital, controlling the labor of an army of operatives from the mining districts of Europe and the United States, are busily engaged in sinking shafts, and in bringing up the stores of wealth which are imbedded in such exhaustless profusion beneath the surface. As the years advance, and as the country becomes more populous, and more appreciative of its abundant manufacturing facilities, this department of industry, already so extensive in supplying the popular wants, both at home and abroad, will expand its proportions, until it shall become the marvel and the wonder of the world!

FIRST SYSTEMATIC MINING.

Prior to the year 1870, quantities of coal were developed in this vicinity, principally for home consumption. The coal which was obtained, lay generally a short distance below the surface, and in some instances, it was visibly cropping out, and, therefore, easy of access. In time, however, the fact was recognized, that if Des Moines were destined to become a great manufacturing center, some more systematic means must be devised by which our vast mineral resources would become available. The State Geologist had reported that the great coal measures of Iowa cropped out here; and it was well understood that, in order to meet the coming demand for coal, the miscellaneous and superficial system of mining which had been adopted, must be abandoned, and some surer and more comprehensive plan must be substituted.

In 1870, our fellow citizen, Wesley Redhead, whose name has become familiar to our people, commenced prospecting for mineral. At several points, he made persistent efforts to reach success, calling to his aid, at the same time, all the well known pluck and energy of his personal character. He expended much time in fruitless toil; and in addition to this, drew on his financial resources to the extent of $8,000. Many men under such circumstances of discouragement, would have become disheartened, and vacated to other more fortunate persons the whole rich field of discovery and fruition. Instead of this, however, Mr. Redhead made another more signal attempt to acquire success, and this time he did not fail.

Meantime, he had secured the services of John Gibson, of Derbyshire, England, a gentleman whose large experience in this department of labor, made him a very useful auxiliary in the new enterprise. A few rods south of 'Coon railroad bridge, on land belonging to Mr. R., west of South

Park, a drill was introduced in 1873, under the direction of Mr. Gibson, foreman. In the descent, seventy feet were attained, the drill passing through three inferior veins of coal, and reaching at the depth indicated, a flint rock, so stubborn and invincible as to bring discouragement, even to the old Derbyshire miner, who advised Mr. R. at this point to abandon the work. Even the Geologist had stated that if success were not realized within that distance of the surface it would be useless to proceed farther.

Mr. Redhead did not participate in the gloomy view of the subject. He quietly enquired of the foreman how many feet of rod were left, and being answered that there were twenty, he urged the employment of every surplus inch, declaring that if this did not bring the anticipated triumph of human enterprise over stubborn nature, he would furnish a hundred feet more, and work these up before he would abandon his long-cherished plans. They went to work again, consuming all of four weeks, at the slow rate of three inches per day, in perforating this massive rock, three feet in thickness. When the drill finally passed through the resisting mass, it quickly descended through a vein five feet thick of Black Diamond Coal, signalizing in its passage, the superiority of genius over inanimate matter.

It was late in the evening when this great triumph was achieved; but late as it was, James Clark, an employee of Mr. Redhead, who had been a witness to the thrilling scene just enacted, hurried away to report to that gentleman the auspicious result. To Mr. Redhead, this report must have been intensely gratifying. He had spent years, and was down to the last dollar of his resources, in these baffling discoveries. He had penetrated the earth, in this enterprise alone, to the depth of one hundred and fifty feet, overcoming the most stupendous obstructions which nature could throw in his way; and to have failed after all this, would have been a sore and terrible humiliation. He immediately

went to B. F. Allen, and on communicating his grand discovery, secured from the banker an investment in the Black Diamond Coal Mine, of $35,000.00. A shaft was sunk to the required depth; and in a short time, all the appliances belonging to a first class mine, were visible to the spectator, and scores of operatives, down deep in the earth, were busily engaged in bringing out from this vast store house of nature its exhaustless treasures! To add to the general triumph, a pure vein of Cannel coal, fifteen inches thick, was discovered beneath the bed of the river. This, with four hundred acres of mineral lands, including the site of the Black Diamond mine, and the rich vein of Cannel coal overlying an affluent vein of bituminous coal, was a treasure indeed; and Mr. Redhead might well pause in his labors for a brief spell, to give himself time to rejoice over the victory which he had gained.

It was not long before two miles of T rail traversed the passages of this mine, and forty men were employed in working the rich lead. A large building surmounted the shaft, in which were placed a boiler manufactured by McDonald & Meara, and two horizontal engines of thirty-five horse power, from the shops of Waldron Brothers of this city.

DES MOINES COAL COMPANIES.

We have taken the trouble to call, either in person or by proxy, at the different coal offices in the city, in search of such statistical exhibits as we needed in making up this article. In the statements which are appended, we have in every instance, so far as we had the ability, accepted and adopted the language and the figures employed by the respective representatives of the companies, in making out their reports for our use. We have no interest under Heaven, and no motive indeed, in speaking more flatteringly or approvingly of one company than another. We have simply

used the material as we have obtained it from the officers of these organizations; and if mistakes are made, or if anything which seems to be invidious is published in this connection, we desire the public to understand that the responsibility for such mistakes, or partial statement of facts, belongs not to the author. With these introductory remarks, which we trust will be wisely heeded, we shall proceed now to the consideration as proposed of our numerous Coal Companies:—

DES MOINES COAL COMPANY.

This Company was organized August 17th, 1865, by Wesley Redhead, James M. Starr, William Vincent, B. F. Allen, Wm. Phillips, Hoyt Sherman, J. Teesdale, Jas. W. Davis, L. W. Dennis, Franklin Butler, and E. Sanford. The mines were at that time located in the north part of the city. They were worked successfully until the basin of coal was exhausted. At this period, Wesley Redhead, having bought up the interest of the other members of the Company, commenced prospecting for mineral on the south side of Des Moines.

He selected the place for experiment, to which we have referred under the head of "First Systematic Mining." The reader has already been made familiar with his discovery of an extensive mine, south of 'Coon, containing Cannel and Bituminous Coal. This is the lowest vein of coal yet discovered in the County, developed as it is from a depth of one hundred and fifty feet from the surface. As a consequence of this great depth, the mineral is harder, stronger, and therefore more economical for service than coal which is superficially obtained. It is extensively used on account of its great popularity. It is called the Black Diamond Coal.

This was the first Coal Company organized in Central Iowa. To show the increase of its business, from the infancy of

the organization until the present time, its books report that in 1867, when the Rock Island Railroad was completed to Des Moines, one or two car loads per day were sufficient to meet the demand. This Company now supplies twenty car loads per day in the busy season, and it gives employment to 150 miners and laborers.

R. W. SYPHER.

The mines which this gentleman works, are located on the line of the Indianola Railroad, one and a half miles from the Court House. According to the tabular statement appended, reported to us by Mr. Sypher, it will be seen that it was opened in 1874:

YEAR.	Capital Invested.	No. of hands employed.	No. of Bushels Mined.	No. of Bushels Exported.	No. of Bushels consumed in City.	Total Value.
1874	$10,000	15	154,000	100,000	54,000	$15,400
1875	12,000	30	265,000	177,000	88,000	26,500
1876	15,000	30	250,000	170,000	80,000	25,000

EXCELSIOR COAL COMPANY.

This Company, composed of John Lumsden and Joseph Beck, was organized in the fall of 1874. The mines are located south of 'Coon, near Munzenmaier's Brewery. The number of hands ordinarily employed is twenty. The aggregate number of bushels mined per year is 169,895, one-third of which are shipped at ten cents per bushel, and the remaining two-thirds are sold at home for fourteen cents per bushel.

WATSON COAL COMPANY.

This Company was organized December 31st, 1867, with the following officers: President, Rufus Ford; Secretary,

J. Henry Brooks, Boston; Treasurer, Jno. L. Lathrop, Hannibal, Mo.; Superintendent, Samuel Stansbury; Cashier, A. W. DeForest. Board of Directors: Rufus Ford, Buda, Ills.; and J. W. Brooks, George B. Chase, W. S. Houghton, and J. N. Denison, of Boston. Capital stock, $200,000. The mines are at Centerville, Iowa, and Des Moines.

From June 1, 1875, to June 1, 1876, this Company mined 1,113,967 bushels, of which 382,915 bushels were sold in Des Moines, and 731,052 bushels were exported. Multiplying the aggregate number of bushels mined during the last year by nine, the product at that price per bushel reaches the magnificent proportions of $100,257.03.

Average number of men employed per month, ninety.

PLEASANT HILL COMPANY.

This Company, of which Hoyt Sherman jr., is principal, was organized September 1, 1875. The mines are situated on the line of the Indianola Railroad, one and a half miles from the city. Capital invested, $5,000.00. The vein of coal is four and a half feet thick.

The number of bushels mined from September 1, 1875 to July 1, 1876, was 75,000, of which 50,000 bushels were sold in the city, and 25,000 were exported. Receipts to July 1, 1876, $9,000.00. Average number of men employed, fifteen.

EUREKA COAL COMPANY.

The officers of this Company are: President, Norman Haskins; Secretary, James Cormack. Authorized capital, $50,000.00. The mines are located South of 'Coon, near the First Ward school house. The Company are engaged in putting in new works, which, when completed, will greatly promote their mining interests.

During that portion of last year in which the mines were worked under the present management, 122,607 bushels of

coal were developed. Number of men employed, from ten to thirty.

ECLIPSE COAL COMPANY.

The present Company was organized October 1, 1873. Its officers are: General Manager, T. D. Yeomans; Secretary, J. Lee Englebert; Mine Superintendent, T. Beck. Mines located South of 'Coon, just outside city limits.

There were mined in 1875, 725,947 bushels, of which seven-tenths were exported at ten cents per bushel, and three-tenths were sold in the city at an average of thirteen and a half cents per bushel. Average number of hands, seventy-five.

IOWA CENTRAL COAL COMPANY.

This Company, of which A. Y. Rawson, C. H. Rawson, and Henry Wightman are principals, was organized in 1867. Its business has been confined almost exclusively, to the city retail trade. The mines are located at the corner of Sixth and School streets. We have received no figures, showing the amount of business done by this Company; but enough is known to indicate the fact that the Iowa Central has been ranked among the most enterprising of our coal Companies.

HAWKEYE COAL COMPANY.

This Company was organized in 1872, by W. W. Fink, and A. G. Smith. In 1876, Mr. Fink became sole proprietor. The banks are one-third of a mile North of the city limits. During the business season, about six hundred bushels per day are elevated, which are sold to consumers at home.

The average number of hands is twenty.

COOLEY'S COAL COMPANY.

This Company, consisting of N. B. and William Cooley, was organized in 1875. The banks are in East Des Moines; and during the business season, from two hundred and fifty to three hundred bushels of coal per day are handled. The sales are exclusively in the city

LINDSEY'S BANK.

David Lindsey's mine is situated just outside the city limits, on the Saylorville road. He has been working it for two years, employing from six, to ten hands, who take out from two to three hundred bushels per day—all for city trade.

PETERSON'S BANK.

Messrs. Peterson & Isaac commenced mining in 1872, in East Des Moines. They employ from ten to twenty hands, and handle from three to five hundred bushels per day, half of which is exported.

RECAPITULATION.

Thus, by the employment of much time and labor, we have been able to compile a report of the most prominent Coal Companies of the county. There are a few others of minor importance, of which we have received no special information. The objective point, however, at which we have been aiming, has been reached; that is, to give the reader some adequate conception of the real magnitude of this department of our local business.

MANUFACTURES.

In the infancy of our City, public attention was directed to the fact that the water power here was as abundant, and

available for propelling all kinds of machinery, as any other site in the West could furnish. In 1857, the following manufactories were in successful operation: A large planing and turning establishment, sash and door factory; a foundry on the East Side; a carding machine by steam; and a number of saw and grist mills. This comprehended all the improvements at the time of this character.

Since then, important accessions have been made to this department; and it is gratifying in this Centennial year, to report that we have already in existence a very large number of manufacturing establishments, enjoying a measure of prosperity, of which older communities might well be proud. The following pages will demonstrate the truthfulness of this statement.

Taking into consideration, therefore, the variety and importance of our home manufacturing system, giving work as it does to multiplied thousands of busy hands; and superadding to this the thought that the very ground on which these manufactories stand, and the streets on which we tread with a feeling of conscious pride and security, were, little more than a quarter of a century ago, the abode of the wolf and the savage, and the home of original nature, our minds are profoundly impressed by the change which has been wrought in so short a time, by the magic touch of Saxon enterprise. And to day, as we reflect on these features of improvement, and contemplate the large number of structures, including residences, churches, business blocks, and our own Exposition Building, now completed, the spirit of genuine prophecy impels us to look forward from this mount of observation, to the period, not by any means distant, when Des Moines will become the recognized metropolis of Iowa, distinguished alike for the success of its literary and industrial systems, and for the greatness and grandeur of its destiny.

PLOW SHOPS.

The first plow factory in the town was built by Stanton & Given, in 1851, on the grounds now occupied by the Given House and Given's Plow Shop. In 1856, Stanton & Skinner sold to Skinner & Given, and in 1859 the establishment was merged into the firm of Skinner Brothers, and moved to Front Street, to the house now occupied by Platt & Speith. The old house was continued by Given & Co.

In the Fall of 1858, Skinner Bros. erected a large brick building, for the accommodation of their increasing business, on the corner of Second and Elm Streets, on the site occupied by the first Drug Store and Printing Office in Ft. Des Moines. They manufacture annually about 1,500 plows and cultivators, principally for the Western States. Many car loads, however, have been shipped to different foreign countries. They consume about $20,000 worth of raw material per annum, and average a working force of fifteen hands.

J. H. Given, proprietor of the Given House, and other city property, started his plow factory in 1851, turning out at that time about two hundred plows per year. His business increased so rapidly, that in order to accommodate himself to the situation, he erected his present large establishment, 133 feet in depth and 40 feet front. He now turns out more than one thousand five hundred plows per year.

The firm of Platt & Speith, 204 First Street, has been in existence several years, growing in importance with increasing prosperity of the City. Their shop was established in 1865. The average number of hands they employ is eight; and the plows they turn out annually, number one hundred. The plows are mostly sold at wholesale, and find a market in different States.

The Des Moines Plow Company was organized October 9th, 1876, with the following officers: President, H. C.

Hargis; Vice-President, Samuel Green; Secretary, R. W. Cross; Treasurer, George C. Baker; General Superintendent, George Garver; Executive Committee, Taylor Peirce, John H. Given, Jacob Cox, John Lawson, and Wm. G. Madden. It is the design of the Company to manufacture all kinds of agricultural implements as well as plows.

FOUNDRIES AND MACHINE SHOPS.

The first foundry in the County was established by H. N. Hemingway, in East Fort Des Moines, in the Fall of 1856. In the Winter of 1856–7, the second foundry was started by S. J. Loughran, and was located on the West side of the river. The firm is now Loughran & Hillis.

The American Foundry and Machine Works were established by A. W. Otis & Rollins, in 1863. In the Spring of 1864, Joseph Heimer purchased the interest of Mr. Rollins, and in the Fall of 1866, Otis & Heimer sold the establishment to Messrs. Brooks, Strawbridge & Wilson. In the Fall of 1867, George Lendrum, the present Sheriff of Polk County, bought the interest of Mr. Strawbridge; and September 23d, 1873, William Stein bought Mr. Lendrum out, since which the style of the firm has been Brooks, Wilson & Stein. They consume about 150 tons of metal annually, and average a working force of ten hands.

The Iowa Boiler Works were established in 1871, by Messrs. Grupe & Turner.

The Foundry and Machine Shop operated by J. B. Flint & Co., is one of the oldest in the city, having been about twenty years in existence.

Eagle Iron Works. This Company was incorporated in November, 1872, with the following officers: President, H. Creswell; Superintendent, Geo. Lendrum; Secretary and Treasurer, D. E. Perkins. Capital stock, $30,000.

The Des Moines Steam Boiler Works were established in 1861, by N. S. McDonald. In 1866, James Meara became

a partner in the establishment. At first, the business was so limited that the services of but one workman were required, and these only for a short time. The first boiler made in the city was made manufactured by Mr. McDonald for Hemingway & Brother's foundry; and in 1862, he manufactured a boiler for the *State Register* (newspaper) office, being the first one made in the city for printing purposes. Last year, (1875) they consumed 185 tons of wrought iron, and 28 tons of cast iron. They ship boilers to several different States, and manufacture, in addition to boilers, lard and water tanks, vault doors and shutters, iron jails, and all kinds of sheet iron works. The firm have in their employ, on an average, eighteen regular hands.

The Northwestern Brass Works were established by J. S. Hill and J. E. Tetley, in May, 1874. They make all kinds of brass work, engines, experimental machinery, soda fountains, etc., and consume annually a large amount of metal.

The Brass Foundry and Machine Shop of E. C. Ross, East Des Moines, was established, January, 1872. A large amount of raw material is consumed, and twelve engines, averaging 12-horse power each, are manufactured annually.

Besides the establishments just noted, we have the Hawk-eye Foundries and Stove Works, S. Green, proprietor; Novelty Iron Works, Parsons & Dear; and the Foundry and Machine Works of Waldron Brothers. The old Des Moines Foundry, East Side, was operated before the war by R. L. Tidrick and G. M. Hippee.

OIL MILLS.

The Central Oil Works, for the manufacture of linseed oil, were established in East Des Moines, September, 1866, by W. R. and J. A. Ankeney. They consume annually about 75,000 bushels of flax seed; and the works have a capacity of 600 gallons of oil and 6 tons of oil cake, per day. The oil is principally exported to Eastern and Southern markets,

in the United States, and the cake to foreign markets. The building is 51 by 127 feet in dimensions, three stories high above cellar, and is composed of brick.

The Des Moines Oil Works, also in East Des Moines, G. W. Werum, proprietor, commenced business, August, 1875. They consume annually about 30,000 bushels of seed, and have a capacity of 300 gallons of oil, and 3½ tons of cake, per day. The products are mostly exported to Eastern markets. The building is a large and commodious structure, composed of brick.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

In 1866, there were in this business Brown & Spofford, Miller & Wills, and N. T. Vorse. We have now Ainsworth & Bonbright, Dryden & Berry, Elliott & Sibley, J. M. Otis, Hoberger & Matten, E. Penn, and the Grange Store, Spencer Day, Agent.

FURNITURE.

The furniture dealers and manufacturers of Des Moines are: C. & L. Harbach, wholesale; Clarke Bros., William Lotz, Gustavus Newton, and Merrill, Keeney & Co. Of these, the Harbach's, Merrill, Keeney & Co., and Lotz, were in the business in 1866. In that year, James Simington, and Tuttle & Lyon, and C. M. McDaniels, were also engaged in this branch of trade. The Harbach's commenced business many years ago, and pushed it so successfully, that during the present summer, they erected, on Third street, for a furniture emporium, one of the largest and finest edifices of this character in the country.

PLANING MILLS.

Messrs. Gilchrist started a planing mill in East Des Moines in 1856, which was subsequently burned down. The mills of this kind, which have since been established, are those

of Carver & Young, H. R. Heath, and A. J. Jack & Co. In 1866, there were four planing mills, which appear in this connection. In 1869, Foster & Bros. were added to the list. During the present summer Capital Planing Mills, Carver & Young, were destroyed by fire; but an immense new building, for the same purpose, erected by the same parties, is occupying the old site.

IOWA SCHOOL FURNITURE COMPANY.

This Company was organized, March 1st, 1867, by Rankin & Roberts. John A. Elliott was at one time connected with this enterprise. The present managers, who bought the establishment of the State of Iowa, January 1st, 1874, are: President and Secretary, F. A. Percival; Treasurer, Taylor Scoville. The authorized capital is fifty thousand dollars. The sales, mostly in the Western States amount to twenty-five thousand dollars per annum.

A. S. Vorse, for many years a resident of Des Moines, commenced the manufacture of school furniture in 1866. His business became extensive, the products of his labor and skill being distributed over Iowa, and other Western States.

DES MOINES SCALE COMPANY.

This Company was established July 15th, 1872, with the following stockholders: F. R. West, President; S. F. Spofford, Vice-President; George A. Jewett, Secretary; Wesley Redhead, Treasurer; S. S. Hitchcock, H. F. Getchell & Sons, Marcus Cavanaugh, Wm. Dickerson, Waldron Bros., Geo. D. Barklow, G. P. Livensberger, McDonald & Meara, and Howell & Seeberger. The establishment continued under the above management till February 5th, 1874, when it was leased to Wm. Dickerson, L. D. Berry, and George M. Sargent. One year later, Wm. Dickerson, who became

the principal stockholder, leased the factory and continued the management alone, till March 1st, 1876.

The present officers and stockholders are: President and Treasurer, H. S. Butler; Vice-President, W. H. Hatch; Secretary, T. Braden; S. F. Spofford, E. R. Butler, Mills & Co., and Clarkson Brothers. An average of one hundred and twenty-five hay and stock scales are manufactured annually, and sold principally to Western States. Capital stock, $50,000.

POTTERIES, ETC.

S. A. Kelsey was one of the earliest potters. We have now Eagle Pottery, Cantril & Bush; East Des Moines Pottery, J. M. Cochran. Besides these, are: Iowa Carbonated Stone Pipe Works, Street & Tuttle; and Des Moines Stone-sawing Co., Martin Tuttle, manager.

WOOLEN MILLS.

The City Woolen Mills of Shephard & Perrior, East Des Moines, date back to 1856. Besides these there are the Iowa Woolen Mills of W. W. Carpenter.

MARBLE WORKS.

The pioneers in marble works were Monroe & Kinsey on Fourth street, and Fox & Boydston on Second street. In 1866 the marble works were those of Fox Bros., H. B. Gray, and Stimson & Co., three establishments in all. In 1869, J. B. Davis; Greenland, Howe & Co., and Totten & Settle. In 1873, East Side Marble Works, Robert Scott, are recorded in this connection.

The Manhattan and Natural Marble Company, organized in September, 1875, consists of J. A. Harvey, President; R. W. Cross, Secretary; Dr. James Wright, Treasurer; W. M. Greenland, Superintendent. The Board of Directors consists of the above named and A. S. Vorse, and C. C. Howell.

The Natural Marble Company, with which the Manhattan was consolidated, March 6, 1876, was established ten years ago by W. M. Greenland. A fine variety of marble, styled Manhattan, is manufactured here. It is susceptible of a high finish, and is used for mantels, table tops, shelves, sink tops, etc. They consume about seven carloads of marble in the rough, annually. Sales amount to $15,000 per annum. Average number of hands employed, ten. All kinds of statuary are also manufactured here.

The Des Moines City Marble Works were established in October, 1873, by I. N. Webster. The work manufactured here, consisting of grates, mantels, and monuments, are made from the best foreign and American marble and granite. Of this material, half American and half Italian, from six to eight car loads are used annually. Large quantities of Scotch granite are imported. Mantels are made of slate and iron, as well as marble. Ten hands are usually employed, and four traveling agents. Sales amount to about $20,000 per annum.

ORGAN FACTORY.

The Hawkeye State Organ is manufactured in Des Moines by C. H. Kremling & Son. These gentlemen started in business here in 1870; and it is due them to say that they are the only manufacturers of organs in the State. We mean to say that all the details of their work are done by themselves, and there is nothing imported except material.

SPICE MILLS.

The extensive Spice Mills of Tone Brothers, were established in 1874.

SEWING MACHINES.

Allen & Co., Manufacturers of the Iowa Sewing Machine, commenced business in 1875.

BRICKS.

The making of brick has been for several years, a prominent feature in our manufacturing system. The large number of brick buildings, which are constantly going up, both in the city and country, demand an immense amount of material with which to erect them. The Capitol building alone requires enough brick to build a common Western city All the villages have their respective kilns; and North of the city limits, the number of brick kilns which have been in full blast during the present and former seasons, is indeed incredible.

The Des Moines brick makers in 1873, were N. B. Cooley, Francis Geneser, and E. D. Janes; in 1876, they are Francis Geneser, Lewis Hyland, Robertson & Willoughby, and Conrad Youngerman.

Brick to the number of 25,000,000, have been used this season in our city improvements; and the prospect is, that as many more will be used next year. This branch of business has indeed become formidable.

CARRIAGE FACTORIES.

A. W. & F. Voodry's Carriage Factory was established in Des Moines, in November, 1865. In June, 1871, the business passed into the hands of A. W. Voodry, who has continued it ever since. The number of vehicles of all kinds manufactured annually, is fifty. The average number of hands employed is ten The sales are confined principally to Central Iowa.

Harbison, Wilson & Williams commenced the business March 10th, 1871. June 6th, 1873, Harbison & Wilson assumed the business, the other partner retiring. October 18th, 1874, Mr. Wilson became sole proprietor, and continued so till the present year, when he became associated with J. J. McDill. In 1871, ten vehicles were manufactured,

and during the last year, eighty. The average number of hands employed since beginning, ten. Sales are mostly in Central and Western Iowa.

O. W. Munsell, formerly of Albany, New York, established himself in the business in Des Moines, in 1867. He states that he manufactured the first carriage made in the city, and sold it to Capt. F. R. West. He averages about fifty vehicles per annum, and employs twelve hands usually, but sometimes many more. Sales are largely in Central and Western Iowa. Some of his carriages were recently exported to East Indies. This establishment, also manufactures hose carriages, hook and ladder trucks, and London coaches.

MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTORIES.

Up to this point, we have noticed the manufacturers from whom we have received special reports for this history. Our object has been to report manufactures only, in this connection. The establishments which have not made special reports are as follows, so far as we have been able to obtain information on the subject:

Baking Powders, by Tone Bros.; Blank Books, by Carter, Hussey & Curl, Mills & Co., and State Bindery; Brooms, by S. B. Brott, George Hanson, and Hobert & Sons; Carriages, by J. A. Wilson; Cigar boxes, by Arnold Wengeler.

The manufacturers of Cigars are: F. Harbach & Bros., commenced business March, 1862; Huttenlocher & Youngerman, commenced 1867; Conradi & Smythe, 1870; Harritt, Beall & Co., 1871; Louis Marks, 1871; Phillip Klumb, 1874; Frank Kuehner, 1874; Henry Pockenburg, 1876; Charles H. Gamp, 1876.

The Confectioners are: Chapin, Merritt & Co., and Vinnedge & Thornley; Crackers, by Garton & Robesky, and W. F. Vincent; Files, by National Company, C. C. Cole, President; J. W. Vincent, Secretary and General Manager.

Furs, by Phillip Gantz, and Kraetsch Bros; Galvanized Iron Cornice, by Comparet & Stark. Mineral Water, by Frederick Stehm. Shirts, by Allen & Co., and W. S. Vernon; Soap and Candles, by L. Fisher, and Young & Dieckman; Asbestine Stone, by C. Youngerman; Leather, by David Bush, and Butler & Stratton; Tinware, by Carpenter & Brother, Mason & Co., A. F. Dix, Mathews & Ledlie, C. Newman, Kurtz & Bro., George W. Sheldon, S. F. Ensminger, Bolton Bros., A. H. Walker, L. G. Beeks, S. L. McKisson & Co., Entwistle & O'Dea, George Dimmet, and Comparet & Stark; Trunks, by H. Becker; Vinegar, by C. W. Menning, and W. T. Painter.

The following breweries are in the County: City Brewery, established in 1855, by George and Joseph Hierb, and owned since 1866 by Alves Mattes. Mattes Brothers are building a brewery in East Des Moines. The National, in South Des Moines, established in 1858, by Kappes & Reinig, and owned since 1863 by Gotlieb Munzenmeier. Union, commenced in 1865, by Adam Aulmann, and recently came into the hands of Aulmann & Schuster. The fifth establishment of this class is the Des Moines Ale Brewery, established in 1866, by Joseph Kinsley.

Wagons are manufactured by W. K. Dedman, Rackem & Girton, C. H. Humbert, T. M. Knight, J. W. McGlew, Smith Bros., C. F. Zeh, and Samuel Rudd.

Watches, etc., by Eason & Rogg, Goodwin & Douglas, S. Joseph, Pierre Leidecka, P. Lindell, W. H. McCoy, J. Parmelee, Plumb Bros., H. P. Hobbs, and C. Mauthe; Guns and Pistols, by C. L. Smith, E. W. Smith, and Chas. Roysdon; Harness and Saddlery, by P. Boudewyns, William Dippert, Jno. Harley, H. P. Johnston, John Koenigsberger, and W. B. Mitchell; Window Shades, by John Mueller; Wooden Boxes, by H. A. Clom; Wooden and Willow Ware, by S. L. Fuller & Co.

SAW AND GRIST MILLS.

The first mill within the limits of the county, as it was before the townships taken from Warren were restored, was erected in the Fall of 1843, by Captain Allen, who was associated in the enterprise with J. D. Parmalee. This mill was on Middle river, and was popularly known as Parmalee's mill. It was first operated for sawing lumber; and the following year facilities were added for grinding wheat.

The first mill in the Northern part of the county, was erected on Big Creek, Madison Township, by George Beebe in 1849.

William H. Meacham erected in 1847, the first mill in the county proper. It was built in what is called East Des Moines, and was operated as a saw mill by horse power. On the same site, the steam mill of J. S. Dean was afterwards erected; and the fine mill of Shepard & Perrior now occupies the same place. At the time Mr. Meacham was running his horse mill, a little saw mill was in existence at the place on Walnut Creek where the railroads now cross that stream. Edward and Edwin Hall built a water flouring mill on the same site on which the mill formerly run by Mr. Williams, now known as the Empire Mills of Jack & Toner, is standing.

B. F. Allen constructed a dam in 1848, two miles above the town on the Des Moines river. It was washed away in 1849.

Hezekiah Fagan erected a mill on Walnut Creek in 1849. Subsequently he was associated with Mr. Fitzsimmons, in operating this mill and another one which they built on Raccoon river.

In 1849, B. F. Allen and C. C. Van built a steam saw-mill South of 'Coon; and the same year Cole, Winchester, and Dean erected the first steam flouring mill on the East side, now known as Shepard & Perrior's mill.

Previous to the building of mills in the county, it was necessary at times, to take grists overland nearly two hundred miles to the mills in Southeastern Iowa. During these protracted trips for bread, much suffering was often endured, not only by the persons who executed the long journey in bad weather; but by the families who were waiting at home for the needed sustenance.

The property known as the Farmer's Mills, East Des Moines, was first built by Daniel Stutzman for a woolen mill. It was transferred to Skinner Brothers for a plow factory; thence to Wheeler, Henry & Depew, for Hominy mills; thence to Joseph Williams, and Ed. Keeler, who changed it to a flouring mill, with two run of 3½ feet burs, giving it a capacity of two hundred bushels per day. The hominy and corn departments, operated by J. D. Williams have the same capacity.

Eagle Flouring Mills, operated by steam, were established in the city by D. A. Tyrrell in 1873. The building is a three story brick. The establishment grinds from forty to fifty thousand bushels of wheat per annum.

Capital Mills, B. C. White proprietor, commenced running in 1865. The building is a three story brick; and the capacity of the mill is one hundred bushels per day.

The Flouring Mills of Gulick & Dye, East Fifth street, have been in successful operation for some time

Ayres' steam mills, built in early times, in the town, were consumed by fire.

PORK BUSINESS.

In 1858, prior to the establishment of regular Slaughtering and Packing Houses, Messrs. Rollins & Winters were engaged in the packing business in a limited way, packing, perhaps, about one thousand head per annum. In 1860, Albert Grefe constructed a slaughter and rendering house,

just opposite the present residence of T. E. Brown, on a site which is now a part of that gentleman's grounds.

About the same time, J. Tuttle & Son commenced the business of packing, in a comparatively small way, in connection with their wholesale and retail grocery house, handling about one thousand head the first year, which were principally sold for home consumption, or for the country and city trade. The cutting and packing were done in a cellar of the Sherman Block. In the winter of 1861-2, they became associated with Martin Winters, James Miller, and Dr. M. P. Turner, in the packing business. They then rented and fitted up the brick livery stable on Third street, north of Exchange Block, for cutting and curing. During that season they packed about three thousand head, at an average cost of $1.91 per hundred pounds, net—an average hog costing less than $4.00, the same to-day being worth over $12.00. The same season, good dressed pork was bought at $1.25, and at no time did the price exceed $2.50 for best net pork. The products of that winter were mostly shipped to New York and Denver; boxed cured shoulders selling in New York at $2.25, sides at $4.00, and lard at $6.00. When these low prices are taken into consideration, the reader may not be surprised that the partners, on striking a dividend, after donating their labor and their time through the season to the business, realized a profit in the aggregate of $56.00, giving to each partner just $11.20! Such profits as these cured a lot of pork packers as effectually as they cured their meat!

The next year Tuttle & Son built the first house ever erected in Des Moines, exclusively for packing purposes, on the site now occupied by Tuttle's stone front, on Fifth St. That season, 1862-3, the price was also very low, averaging about two cents net, until the latter part of the winter, when it advanced to three and one-half cents per pound. The number of hogs packed was about 3,500, of which two-

thirds were hauled to Ottumwa, Victor, and Marshalltown, the western termini respectively of three railroads.

The same season, Messrs. Getchell & J. B. Miller packed about 1,000 head in one of the Savery House cellars; also, Messrs. Rawson & Harmon packed about 2,500 in a house on the site now occupied by Osgood, Wyman & Harris as a dry goods store; and Rollins & Winters packed about the same amount at their store building on Second street, since destroyed by fire.

In the Winter of 1863–4, Tuttle & Son packed at their establishment about four thousand head at prices ranging from $3.50 to $7.00 per hundred. A large amount of this was sold on the premises at figures varying from three cents to eighteen cents per pound, for smoked meats. The houses of Andrew Rollins & Harmon, and John Rollins & Winters, also packed about three thousand head each that season.

The first regular packing house in the county was built by B. F. Murphy of Chicago, in 1863, on the ground now occupied by Gen. J. M. Tuttle's packing establishment in this city. It was not extensive, and was intended only for slaughtering and dressing, preparatory to hauling to the railroads, the points for exportation by shipment on railroad, being Grinnell on the Rock Island Railroad, and Marshalltown on the Northwestern. The house had no cellar, and was not in a condition to cure meats at that time. In 1867, Gen. J. M. and his brother Martin Tuttle, under the name of Tuttle Brothers, purchased the building of Mr. Murphy, enlarged it, and put a cellar under it, adding tanks and all other appurtenances belonging to a regular packing house.

In 1870, General Tuttle became the sole proprietor, and continued the business alone till January, 1873, when he became associated with Lewis Igo of Warren county. In 1874, the old building was torn down, and the present large and commodious stone structure was erected, with all the modern improvements of a first class establishment, having a

capacity for handling 1,500 hogs per day. In the Spring of 1875, the General purchased the interest of Mr. Igo, and again became the sole proprietor. The number of hogs packed at this house in the winter of 1867–8, was 15,846; in 1868–9, 15,876; in 1869–70, 10,788; in 1870–1, 6,703; in 1871–2, 18,255; in 1872–3, 31,282; in 1873–4, 20,044; in 1874–5, 32,037; in 1875–6, 15,096.

Messrs. Murphy & Co., composed of M. M. Murphy, T. E. Johnson, and Joseph Shissler, established a packing house in 1869. In 1872, Mr. Shissler purchased the interest of the other members of the firm, and has since been the sole proprietor. In the Spring of the same year, an addition was made to the house, giving it a capacity of six hundred head per day. This house is also supplied with all the modern improvements pertaining to the business. The books show that in the Winter of 1869–70, 1,600 hogs were packed; in 1870–71, 3,600; in 1871–2, 10,526; in 1872–3, 7,686; in 1873–4, 2,000; in 1874–5, 12,703. The lowest price paid for hogs by this house was $2.50 per hundred in 1871, and highest was $9.50 in 1869.

This establishment did all the cooking for the great soldiers reunion at Des Moines in 1870, as mentioned elsewhere.

The packing house now owned by J. H. Windsor & Co., East of the Des Moines river, was built by Stower's Pork Packing and Provision Company, of Scranton, Pa., March 29th, 1871. During the two seasons of 1871–2 and 1872–3, in which it was operated by this Company, no report has reached us of the business done. It was bought by J. H. Windsor & Co., in the Fall of 1873; and it is still owned by them.

During the season of 1873–4, this house packed 23,600 hogs. In the season of 1874–5, 22,500 were packed. In the Fall of 1875, large additions were made to the establishment, giving it a Summer Packing House, at a cost of

$25,000. The Winter capacity of the house is 1,200 hogs per day, and the Summer capacity, 600. In the Winter of 1875–6, 28,000 hogs were killed; and in the Summer of 1876, 24,000 were killed.

The Summer meats are cut for foreign markets, and are shipped direct across the water. The house is now putting up a large box factory, to save bringing boxes from abroad, for the English market. The ice-house, for the storage of ice for Summer use, has a capacity of 12,000 tons.

James W. Davis, in 1861, packed 200 sugar-cured hams for the city retail trade. In 1863, Davis & Dennis took the business, which increased from 1,000 to 2,000 annually, until 1868. In 1869, Dennis & Keyes bought out Davis & Dennis, and until 1874, packed annually an average of 8,000 hams, 2,000 sugar-cured shoulders, and 100,000 pounds of clear sides, mostly for this market.

In 1874, Dennis & Keyes sold out to Keyes, Thompson & Reeves. The latter firm have put up 25,000 sugar-cured hams, 10,000 sugar-cured shoulders, 300,000 pounds of clear sides, and 300 barrels and tierces of lard and pickled pork. Half of these products were sold in Central Iowa, and the other half in Boston, New York, Baltimore, and San Francisco.

We had hoped to obtain statistics on this subject from the old house of Murphy & Co.; but this hope has not been realized. It is well known, however, that an immense business was done by this house. B. F. Allen was connected with it; and his abundant means gave to it a great degree of efficiency and prosperity.

RAILROADS.

An election was held at Fort Des Moines, September 19, 1853, on the proposition of issuing the bonds of the county, to the amount of $150,000, to aid in the construction of the second section of the Lyons & Iowa Central Railroad. The

vote stood 366 for the proposition, and 162 against. The adoption of the proposition was ordered by Judge Rice to be published in the *Iowa Star*.

On the 20th day of September, 1856, a proposition to issue bonds to the amount of $300,000, to aid in the construction of the Mississippi & Missouri Railroad from Iowa City to Fort Des Moines, was adopted by a majority of 229 votes. Both of the above propositions resulted in disappointment.

It will be seen, therefore, that more than twenty years ago our citizens began to anticipate the near coming of the Iron Horse; but we regret to say that their anticipations were for a long time illusory and vain. As time progressed, one hope after another was crushed out by the merciless heel of disappointment, until public confidence in this class of enterprise, gave place to distrust and discouragement. At last, the Des Moines Valley Company, animated by local subsidies and a magnificent land grant, and controlling in a great measure the franchises of the old Des Moines Navigation and Railroad Company, began to push its line northward and westward up the valley. Reaching Eddyville in 1861, it remained there several years, compelling our people to travel in coaches nearly a hundred miles; and after an exasperating delay, which would have tried the patience of the old martyrs, the cars on this road reached the Capital on the 29th day of August, 1866, a day memorable in our history. Not long after, this line was completed to Ft. Dodge.

In 1859, the M. & M. Railroad Company, a feeble corporation from the start, but from which important results were expected, ran its engines into Iowa City, where it tarried for time to take breath; after which it proceeded leisurely to Marengo. The Company at length became hopelessly bankrupt, and by a specific negotiation, its franchises were transferred bodily to the C., R. I. & P. Railroad Company, one

of the most vigorous and reliable corporations in the country. The cars on this road made their triumphant entry into Des Moines in September, 1867, pushing on westward to Council Bluffs not long afterward.

Four years since, the C., R. I. & P. Railroad Company opened up railroad communication with Indianola and Winterset, establishing lines from the Capital to these places.

NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD.

This road requires something more than the brief historical notice which we have given it, in connection with the other railroads of Des Moines. It is specifically a Polk County enterprise, owing its existence, and its present prosperous condition, to the intelligence and liberality of our citizens. Fred. M. Hubbell, Esq., of this city, has furnished us a concise, well written, and very interesting history of this road, which we take pleasure in transferring, without alteration, to this place, as follows:

Thursday evening, February 8, 1866, there assembled at the Court House, in Des Moines, a number of its citizens to attend a railroad meeting. Hon. George G. Wright was called to the Chair, and George C. Tichenor was elected Secretary.

At this meeting the Iowa & Minnesota Railway Company was organized. Articles of incorporation were adopted, and seventeen gentlemen were selected as Directors for the ensuing year, to-wit: B. F. Allen, P. M. Casady, J. M. Tuttle, Hoyt Sherman, T. K. Brooks, J. B. Stewart, Wesley Redhead, George G. Wright, B. F. Roberts, S. F. Spofford, C. G. Bridges, John Scott, L. Q. Hoggatt, John Porter, John Cheshire, T. B. Knapp, and M. D. McHenry.

The Board of Directors immediately organized by electing the following officers:

President—P. M. Casady.

Vice President—B. F. Roberts.
Treasurer—B. F. Allen.
Secretary—Hoyt Sherman.

The object of this Company, as stated in its Articles of Incorporation, was to construct a railroad to the North and South lines of the State of Iowa. On the 18th of July, of that year, the road was located from Des Moines North to Ames, and South to Indianola; and ten days later, the contract for grading and bridging the road was awarded to S. W. Collins and B. F. Roberts, Contractors.

These gentlemen graded a part of the Road North of Polk City, and a portion in Warren county; but owing to some financial troubles, they did not complete their work. The Company struggled along, frequently changing officers, until November 20th, 1868, when work was stopped, and the enterprise seemed a failure. About this time, the creditors began to sue and obtain judgments against the Company in such large amounts, that it was found impossible to go on under the old organization; so on the 30th day of April, 1869, the Road was divided, and that portion South of the track of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway, was transferred to the Des Moines, Indianola & Missouri Railroad Company; and a few months later that portion of the road between Des Moines and Ames, passed into the hands of Polk & Hubbell, by purchase at Sheriff's sale.

DES MOINES AND MINNESOTA RAILROAD COMPANY.

This Company was organized on the 1st day of August 1870, by the following gentlemen who signed the Articles of Incorporation, viz: J. S. Polk, F. M. Hubbell, J. B. Stewart, R. L. Tidrick, J. M. Walker, A. S. Welch, L. Q. Hoggatt, B. F. Allen, C. J. Clark, N. R. Kuntz. The Directors selected to serve for the first year, were B. F. Allen, J. S. Polk, J. B. Stewart, J. M. Walker, A. S. Welch.

At a meeting of the Directors held the same day, the following officers were elected:

President—B. F. Allen.
Vice-President—J. M. Walker.
Secretary—J. S. Polk.

On the 2d day of September, 1870, Washington township, Story county, voted a tax of 5 per cent to this Company.

On the 5th of October, of the same year, Madison township, Polk county, voted a three per cent. tax; and on the 11th of the same month, Polk county voted to donate its swamp lands to this company.

On the 24th of August, 1871, Des Moines township voted a one per cent. tax, and Lee township, on the 23d of September following, voted a fifteen mill tax.

The subsidies now voted were as follows:

Washington township tax	$ 12,000
Madison township tax	16,000
Des Moines township tax	34,000
Lee township tax	16,000
Polk county swamp lands, 8,300 acres, estimated at	40,000
Total subsidies	$118,000

It was believed that this amount if offered to the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co., would be sufficient to induce it to construct its road from Ames to Des Moines. This offer was accordingly made by letter and in person, through F. M. Hubbell, Secretary, at different times during the years 1871 and 1872, but was as often declined; so, early in 1873, the company determined to wait no longer for outside help, but to solicit subscriptions to its stock, and when enough had been pledged, to commence the construction.

The citizens of Ames subscribed to the stock	$10,000
Citizens of Madison township	5,000
Citizens of Des Moines	22,000

The largest subscription was by Capt. F. R. West, who gave $1,000.

The Directors had a meeting on the 6th day of September 1873, and amended the Articles of Incorporation, increasing the capital stock to $300,000; and on the 9th of the same month, Polk & Hubbell conveyed to the company so much of the right-of-way and road bed of the old Iowa & Minnesota Railway as was situated in Polk and Story counties. The Directors then elected the following officers under whose management the road was constructed:

Samuel Merrill, President.

J. B. Stewart, Vice-President.

F. M. Hubbell, Secretary.

James Callanan, Treasurer.

Frank Pelton, Chief Engineer.

The laying of track began on the 12th day of January, 1874, Gov. C. C. Carpenter driving the first spike. The first locomotive, "*The Granger*," was purchased March 5, 1874, at a cost of $7,500.00. But little track was laid until the month of May; and about the first of August, 1874, the road was completed to Ames, a distance of thirty-seven miles. There have been expended in building and equipping this road, $300,000.00. It owns 4 locomotives, 3 passenger cars, 1 combined passenger and baggage, 3 baggage cars, 23 box cars, 18 flat cars, and 10 stock cars.

Its officers at present are:

James Callanan, President.

J. J. Smart, Vice-President and Superintendent.

J. B. Stewart, Secretary.

C. H. Getchell, Treasurer.

This road, during the time of its construction, was greatly harassed by litigation. Not less than two hundred citizens of Des Moines, Lee and Madison townships, instituted chancery suits against it, to enjoin the collection of taxes voted. By reason of these suits, the subsidy which otherwise would

be considered liberal, was largely reduced, and great expense incurred by the company to defend suits, at a time when all its funds were needed for construction.

The company has always enjoyed the best of credit, and is prosperous financially.

OUR PRESENT RAILROADS.

Polk County has at this time the benefit of six railroads, all of which communicate with Des Moines. They are named as follows: Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific; Indianola & Missouri; Winterset & Southwestern; Des Moines & Fort Dodge; Keokuk & Des Moines; and Des Moines & Minnesota (Narrow Gauge.) Two other roads are in progress, one connecting us with Oskaloosa *via* Indianola R. R., and the other with Albia *via* Knoxville, both roads leading into Des Moines.

The Des Moines & Fort Dodge; Des Moines & Minnesota; and one or two other Des Moines roads, propose a speedy extension of their lines.

In the summer of 1875, the Rock Island Company erected a fine depot building in Des Moines, in place of the rather shabby structure which had previously been used for depot purposes.

Several other lines of railway, communicating with the Capital, have been projected, some of which are in process of completion. We have not space to speak of these roads in detail; but enough has been said on this point, to indicate the significant fact, that Des Moines is destined in time to become a great railroad center, with its lines of communication reaching out ambitiously toward all points of the compass, and bringing back to us the tribute which the world owes to a city under the guardianship of manifest destiny.

COUNTY RAILROAD STATIONS.

On the line of the Rock Island Railroad, west of Des Moines, are Valley Junction, and Commerce. On this road, east of the City, are Altoona and Mitchellville. On the Narrow Gauge Railroad, are Saylor Station, Ankeny, Pelton, Polk City, Ulm, and Sheldahl. On the line of the Des Moines & Fort Dodge Railroad, west of the City, are Valley Junction and Ashewa. On this road, east of Des Moines, are Oakwood Station, Altoona, and Mitchellville Station. On the Indianola & Winterset Railroad, is Avon Station.

Of all these stations, Mitchellville, Polk City, and Altoona are the largest. The stations on the Narrow Gauge Railroad have all, with the exception of Polk City, grown up since the completion of that road to Ames.

AGRICULTURE.

FARMING STATISTICS, ETC.

From the last Census Report, we learn that by far the greater part of the lands of the County are under improvement; many thousand acres displaying the highest condition of cultivation. Of Spring wheat, in 1875, 37,686 acres were sown, and 563,389 bushels were harvested. Of corn, 77,497 acres were planted, and 3,272,040 bushels were harvested. Of oats, 12,188 acres were sown, and 431,841 bushels were harvested. Of horses, there were 10,927; of cattle, 22,240; of hogs, 62,318; of sheep, 8,830; of butter, 606,965 pounds. The value of farm products was $2,140,023; of garden products, $22,887; of orchard products, $18,926; of small fruits, $17,081; of herd products, $674,011; of the dairy, $109,603; of forest products, $51,134. The number of bearing apple trees in the County, in 1874, was 51,182; of cherry trees, 7,077. The equalized valuation of the lands is $15 per acre, the aggregate value of which, as per assessment, is $5,000,000. In every rural township, there are farms which will not suffer by comparison with the most flourishing sections of the country. The lands are proverbially rich, composed of black alluvion, expressly adapted to the production of corn, wheat, and other great staples, which constitute the real sustenance of the world. As a farming region, Polk County is not surpassed; and, indeed, it has but few peers, or rivals, in the great Northwest.

CENTRAL IOWA DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This organization came into being in 1860, and was composed of the following counties: Polk, Boone, Dallas, Hamilton, Hardin, Jasper, Marion, Madison, Marshall, Story, Warren, and Webster. Besides the ordinary officers chosen for such a body, there was a Board of Directors, composed of two from each county.

The specific object was to build up Agricultural Fairs, or Exhibitions, in Central Iowa; and this was to be accomplished by judiciously changing the places for holding such Fairs, from one county to another, stimulating, in this way, a general interest among the people, and leading, as a result, to the establishment of a Society in each one of the counties. The principal place for the transaction of business, was Des Moines. There were fifteen exhibitions in all; and in 1874, after having fully accomplished its mission, the Association was discontinued. During its existence, it was instrumental in doing much good, especially in our own County, in which a large majority of the Fairs were held, and in which, too, it received very liberal support and encouragement.

Its Fairs were held as follows: In 1861, at Newton; in 1862–3, at Des Moines; 1864–5, at Knoxville; from 1866 to 1871, at Des Moines; 1872, Council Bluffs; 1873–4, at Des Moines.

From time to time, after the original organization, the following counties were annexed: Adair, Audubon, Cass, Greene, Guthrie, Lucas, Mahaska, Poweshiek, and Pottawattamie.

In 1863, P. F. Bartle, of this city, was elected Secretary, and he retained this position by successive elections, until 1873. S. F. Spofford was, from first to last, an efficient friend and officer of the Association. In 1871, Horace Greeley, through the agency of Mr. Bartle, delivered an

Agricultural Address before the Association, on the Driving Park grounds. Under the same auspices, the famous pedestrian, Edward Payson Weston, achieved one of his great walking exploits on the Fair Grounds, in September, 1871.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The first Fair, or Agricultural Exhibition in the county, was held in October, 1852, in the old court house yard. It is recorded of this fair, that the attendance was small, and the exhibitions meagre. In September, 1853, another Fair was held on the grounds afterwards occupied by the District Association, in the valley of the Raccoon River, near Horse Shoe Lake, and within a short distance of the town. A large rail pen was constructed on the grounds by John D. McGlaughlin and Thomas Mitchell, which was employed in exhibiting a number of animals of blooded stock, owned by Dr. J. C. Bennett of Polk City.

Mr. Mitchell showed a fine Durham Bull; and Jacob Fredrick and Son exhibited fine wooled sheep. Dr. Brooks, the President of the Society, showed good horses. Good specimens of wheat and corn, as well as potatoes and immense squashes, were on exhibition. The Directors were: Thomas Mitchell, B. F. Allen and F. R. West.

There were no specimens of fancy work, and no female equestrianism on the grounds. These were reserved for fairs of a later date.

After this period, exhibitions were kept up at the same place with much regularity, and frequently with great success. It is well remembered, that the fair held in the Autumn of 1857, was very largely attended, reflecting much credit on the managers, and on our citizens generally. For a new country, it was one of the most successful on record. Fine specimens of fancy work were introduced; and the splendid equestrianism of Mrs. Hanley, Mrs. J. C. Savery, and other ladies, excited general admiration. The Fine

Art Hall was a circular tent, in which, among other things, were some excellent photographic views by J. P. Sharman of this city. A singular feature was the introduction of a team of forty-two yoke of oxen. Several Californians made sport for the multitude, by imitating the exploit of lassoing wild horses in Spanish style.

The Polk County Agricultural and Industrial Association was organized May 14th, 1870. The Central Iowa District Association, of which we have written in preceding paragraphs, had conducted most of the Fairs previous to 1870. Many of our agricultural citizens came to the conclusion at this time, that Polk County alone, without any extraneous assistance, was able now to run its own Fairs successfully. This Association was incorporated under the laws of the State, with a franchise which extended from May 14th, 1870, to May 14th, 1890, a period of twenty years. The capital stock was $50,000. The private property of members was not held liable for the debts of the corporation. The object of the organization was to promote the farming, and other industrial interests, of the county. The payment of $100 gave to the member all the privileges of the Society.

The original incorporators were: S. D. Welling, Alexander Shaw, C. P. Holmes, W. C. Kent, C. S. Johnson, Thos. Hatton, H. H. Robinson, L. M. Sanford, O. W. Munsell, S. F. Spofford, Harry West, M. W. Robinson, A. P. Ayers, Wm. Patrick, F. R. West, and Geo. W. Savery. The first officers were: M. W. Robinson, President; O. W. Munsell, Vice-President; Alexander Shaw, Secretary; Jno. A. Elliott, Treasurer.

The first Fair under this organization, was held on the grounds of the Driving Park Association, commencing Tuesday, September 3d, and ending Friday, September 6th, 1872. It was very successful in all departments.

The next Fair was held at the same place, from September 3d to September 6th, 1873. The Society by this time

had incurred large debts; and it was with much difficulty, and much devotion on the part of its officers, that it was kept on its feet. On the 27th of September the following officers were chosen: President, M. W. Robinson; Vice-President, David Beatty; Secretary, Alex. Shaw; Treasurer, John A. Elliott; Chief Marshal, Col. R. V. Ankeny.

At this time a strife sprung up between this Society, and the Central District Association. Efforts were made to consolidate, so as to hold but one Fair; but this result was not accomplished. The District Fair was partially successful; but the County exhibition was badly demoralized by heavy rains; so much so indeed, that no premiums were paid.

In January, 1875, the two Societies effected an agreement, resolving to hold but one Fair. The officers of the consolidation were: President, William Patrick; Vice-President, Daniel Flynn; Secretary, P. H. Bristow; Treasurer, H. H. Robinson; Chief Marshal, N. J. Miller. The time fixed for the Fair, was from September 21st to September 24th, 1875; but, one week before the date indicated, the grounds were ten feet under water! The exhibition was, threfore, postponed until October 14th, at which time it was held; but owing to adverse circumstances, it was not a great success. It paid, however, all expenses, and fifty cents on the dollar in premiums.

The present officers are: President, O. W. Munsell; Vice President, H. H. Robinson; Secretary, P. H. Bristow; Treasurer, Simon Cassady; Chief Marshal, Geo. W. Bristow. At this writing, August 15th, 1876, the prospect, for a fine Fair in Autumn, are very good.

For the history of this Association, we are principally indebted to P. H. Bristow, Esq., of this City.

Since writing the above, the Fair indicated, which was to come off in September of the present year, was made a failure by excessive rains.

DES MOINES DRIVING PARK ASSOCIATION.

This Association was organized for the purpose of securing, laying out, and fitting up a "Driving and Skating Park," to be located within the limits of the City of Des Moines. Its articles of incorporation, which were filed Sept. 28th, 1866, date its commencement August 1st, 1866, and limit its continuance to twenty years. The capital stock of the corporation was fixed at $10,000, divided into shares of $100 each. At its organization there were thirty-one stockholders and members, all of whom were prominent citizens and business men in Des Moines. The first officers of the Association were as follows: S. F. Spofford, President; John McWilliams, Vice-President; F. R. West, Treasurer; P. F. Bartle, Secretary; Board of Directors, Geo. W. Savery, Geo. Crawford, Jno. H. Bacon,and Thos. Kavanaugh.

The association purchased about seventy acres of land, lying around Horse Shoe Lake, and between the lake and the Raccoon river, and fitted them up with a fine half-mile track, amphitheater, Floral, Fine-Art, and Agricultural Halls, skating park buildings, stands, stalls, dwellings, barns, etc., and made the grounds a favorite resort for fairs, horse and cattle shows, picknicks, and other amusements.

The affairs of the Association were wound up in 1870; and the grounds which had been enlarged, so as to comprise about one hundred acres, became rightfully the property of S. F. Spofford and F. R. West, by purchase.

The grounds are now used and known as Park Grounds, and are by nature adapted to the very purpose to which they are devoted. They occupy a place on which fairs have usually been held in the county. S. F. Spofford recently (June 28th) sold his share in the Park to Wesley Redhead, for $12,000.00; and the grounds now belong to Messrs. F. R. West, and Wesley Redhead.

For the above brief but comprehensive report, we are indebted to P. F. Bartle, Esq., Secretary of the Association.

JOURNALISM.

THE STATE LEADER.

In conversation with Barlow Granger, Esq., we elicited the following facts in connection with the early journalism of our county: A gentleman named Blair, issued in the the Fall of 1848, a prospectus which contemplated the establishment at Fort Des Moines, of a democratic journal, styled *The Star*. The following Spring Mr. Blair went to California, without having started the paper, according to promise, leaving Mr. Granger to receive the office material which was expected to come from Iowa City. This expectation, however, was not realized; and finally Mr. Granger, who passed the greater part of the Winter of 1848-9 at Iowa City, negotiated at that place for the purchase of office fixtures, Judge Curtis Bates furnishing the means. During the following summer, Charles Winkley and Jonathan Rathburn were sent with wagons and teams, to bring back to the Fort the material with which the first newspaper in Central Iowa was to be printed. On returning with the coveted prize, Skunk river bottom presented such obstacles to progress, that Mr. Rathburn and his companion were compelled to relieve the load temporarily, by hauling as much of it as was possible up the steep acclivity this side of that river, and then returning for the balance. Such were the beginnings of the present *State Leader*. It is worthy of mention in this connection, that the first copy of the

Iowa Star which went out of the office, was taken by our lamented fellow citizen, Lewis Jones, and the first money received on subscription, came from the purse and hands of Thomas Mitchell.

In June, 1849, Barlow Granger & Co., commenced the publication of the *Iowa Star* in one of the garrison buildings. In a short time it reached the healthy circulation of eight hundred. Curtis Bates, and Luther Johnson, succeeded to the control of the paper in 1850, the latter gentleman dying eight months afterward. In August, 1851, Dr. A. Hull, now of Sedalia, Mo., a fluent and forcible writer, assumed the editorial management of *The Star*. He retired in 1852, Judge Bates remaining with the paper. In 1854, *The Star* changed its name to the *Argus*, and as Judge Bates was the Democratic candidate for Governor, he associated D. O. Finch with himself in the management. Subequently, the name was again changed by a formal rebaptism, and the *Argus* was known as the *Statesman*, passing into the hands of Tomlinson and Farner, the former of whom was killed during the war, in the streets of Ripley, Ohio, by William Mitchell, a citizen of Kentucky. In February, 1857, having changed its name to *Iowa State Journal*, Will Porter, now of this city, and a correspondent of the Chicago *Times*, became joint proprietor with Robert Hedge, H. C. Rippey assisting in the editorial department. They were succeeded in 1858, by Stilson Hutchins, now of the St. Louis *Times*, and one of the most trenchant writers in the West. He was associated with G. M. Todd.

Early in 1860, A. J. Stevens and Wm. H. Hoxie started the *Commonwealth*, a Republican paper, assuming to be the organ of the young Republicans of Iowa. This journal, possessing ability in its editorial department, had, nevertheless, an ephemeral existence; and in 1861, it was merged into the *Des Moines Times*, J. B. Bausman, editor. Subsequently, Col. W. H. Merritt bought the *Times*, changing

its name to the *Statesman*. In 1865, Col. Merritt sold the paper to Staub & Jenkins, after having controlled it about three years. These gentlemen were succeeded by G. W. Snow, who died in Chicago, much lamented, September 21st, 1870. In 1870, Barnhart Bros., and W. W. Witmer, bought the materials, and changed the name of the paper to its present title. The *Leader* Company was composed of W. W. and J. W. Witmer, and W. E. Andrews. They commenced the management, March, 1873. In 1871, Dr. D. V. Cole was connected with this paper. The *Leader* is the accredited State organ of the Democratic party, displaying much talent in its editorial columns, and extending to all competing journals a dignified courtesy and amenity, which are worthy of universal imitation.

Since writing the above, a change has taken place in the ownership of the *Leader*. On the 15th of August, 1876, Geo. F. Parker, of the Indianola *Tribune*, purchased Mr. Andrews' and a portion of J. W. Witmer's stock. W. W. Witmer also purchased a portion of J. W. Witmer's stock, and the management, and the editorial duties of the paper, will hereafter be conducted by these gentlemen.

IOWA STATE REGISTER.

The inauguration of the *Star* in 1849, as a Democratic journal, stimulated the Whigs, in the same year, to start a competing paper. Accordingly, the Fort Des Moines *Gazette* was issued by L. P. Sherman & Co. Mr. Sherman had been several years foreman of the *Gazette* office, Cincinnati. He, therefore, brought to the new enterprise a large amount of ripe experience; but at the time of which we write, the Democratic party in Central Iowa, and, indeed, in the entire State, had acquired such complete and undisputed sway, that Whig journals, for want of local and general patronage, had nothing but their naked subscription lists to give them vitality and permanence. For this cause,

the career of the *Gazette* was comparatively brief. It was followed by the *State Journal*, published by Peter Myers & Co.

It was during the administration of Mr. Myers, that the vigorous pens of W. W. Williamson and C. Ben Darwin, were employed on the paper. Both of them are accomplished attorneys. Tradition affirms that Mr. Darwin occasionally relieved the tedium of editorial duties by chopping wood, washing dishes, and tending baby, displaying in this excellent way, his affection for his sick wife.

For some time after the suspension of the *Gazette*, the party opposed to the Democratic faith, were left without an organ. In February, 1856, Thomas H. Sypherd, now a clerk in the Treasury Department, Washington City, started the *Iowa Citizen*, in Exchange Block. His partner in the enterprise was A. J. Stevens, a banker in the town. In February, 1857, Mr. Sypherd retired from the paper, leaving it to Mr. Stevens. Immediately after this change, W. H. Farner and J. M. Dixon were installed as editors and publishers. Meantime, the paper had identified itself with the new Republican party.

In August, 1857, the *Citizen* passed into the hands of J. C. Savery, and at the same time, Dr. Farner retired from the editorial chair, resigning it, under the direction of Mr. Savery, to J. M. Dixon. In December, 1857, John Teesdale, who had been elected State Printer, assumed the proprietorship, with Mr. Dixon as his Associate Editor. During the Winter of 1859–60, the paper was invested with its present title: *Iowa State Register*.

In May, 1861, F. W. Palmer, who had been chosen State Printer, became the owner, with Mr. Dixon as his associate in editorial duty. January 13, 1862, the first number of the *Daily State Register* was issued, depending for news by telegraph on the line extending from Chicago to California, which had recently commenced operation. December 4th,

1866, Frank and Jacob Mills, and J. M. Ross, under the title of Mills & Co., assumed ownership, with Messrs. Palmer and Dixon in the editorial department; but as the latter was becoming hopelessly blind, he was compelled, at this point, to vacate the place which he had occupied nearly eleven years.

During the proprietorship of Mills & Co., the editorial conduct of the *Register* devolved, for a part of the time, on Mr. Palmer, assisted by J. S. Clarkson. The latter gentleman remained with the paper, until December 4th, 1870, when J. S. and R. P. Clarkson, under the name of Clarkson Brothers, purchased the establishment.

C. S. Wilson, formerly of Pella and Winterset, at which places he published newspapers, has been the City Editor several years. The editorial talent invested in this paper is of a high order. From the date of the establishment of the *Register* in 1856, until the present time, it has been the recognized State organ of the Republican party.

The Editor-in-Chief is J. S. Clarkson; business manager, R. P. Clarkson; Agricultural Editor, C. F. Clarkson. Carroll Wright, son of Senator Geo. G. Wright, is also on the editorial staff of this paper, in the local department. Ellis Pattee, foreman of the book and job department, has been an attachee of the office during the past twenty years.

HOMESTEAD.

In 1859, Wm. Duane Wilson transferred the *Iowa Farmer* from Mt. Pleasant and Fairfield to Des Moines, changing it from a monthly to a weekly; Mills Brothers, publishers. The same year it became the property of Hiram Torrey, who styled it the *Pioneer Farmer*. The next owner was W. S. Simmons, who sold to Mark Miller, under whose control it became the *Iowa Homestead*. It next, in 1864, passed into the hands of H. W. Petitt, who died in the spring of 1866, and the *Homestead* then re-

verted to Mark Miller, after which it returned to its original proprietor, Wm. Duane Wilson.

The present management, Dr. Sprague, editor and proprietor, commenced, September, 1873. The paper is now called the *Homestead and Western Farm Journal.*

Gen. William Duane Wilson, whose name has been mentioned as one of the former editors of the *Homestead*, was the first Secretary of the State Agricultural College, elected by the Board of Trustees of that institution. He served in that capacity seven years with great acceptability, and then resigned, going into other departments of labor. He has been intimately connected with the Grange movement in Iowa, from its inception. He is now associated with the *Helper* newspaper, and also with the Agricultural Department of the Iowa Industrial Exposition.

Mark Miller, one of the editors of the *Homestead*, and the conductor of the *Pomologist*, came to Des Moines in 1860, from Dubuque. He was an engraver by profession, and quite a genius. He died April 9th, 1874, while residing on his farm near the city.

George E. Wilson, son of General Wilson, sold in 1866, the first ticket, and checked the first baggage, on the Union Pacific Railroad.

STATE JOURNAL.

Stewart, Waterman & Speed started the *State Journal* under the name of *Review*, December 31st, 1870. May 18, 1872, it was bought by the Republican Printing Company, of which G. W. Edwards was President, and G. A. Stewart, Secretary. These gentlemen were respectively Editor and Associate Editor. At the last date, the *Daily Republican* was started, which was continued until October, 1873, when it was purchased by the State Printing Company, and its name changed to the *State Journal.* It was continued under this management until April, 1874, when it passed into

the hands of G. W. Edwards. It was bought by Williams, Blair & Pearson, October 25th, 1874, with Williams as Editor, Blair as Business Manager, and Pearson as Book Keeper. The *Daily Journal* was discontinued October 23d, 1875, but the Weekly is still in existence, never having missed an issue. J. G. Blair succeeded, as conductor of the paper, August 10th, 1875. The engine of the Journal Office was manufactured in this city, by Loughran & Hillis. The *Journal* has always been Republican in politics.

IOWA PROGRESS.

In July, 1872, H. S. Hyatt issued the first number of the *Iowa Progress*, a monthly 16-page journal, devoted to the resources, industries, and interests of the State, with an Immigration Department, edited by A. R. Fulton, then Secretary of the State Board of Immigration. It had an aggregate circulation of over 5,000 copies, but at the end of one year, Mr. Hyatt removed the publication to St. Louis, where it was continued as the *Mississippi Valley Progress.*

IOWA STATE GAZETTE.

In 1873, J. P. Bushnell commenced the publication of the *Iowa State Gazette*, a Monthly quarto, devoted to the general interest of Iowa and the Northwest. Its publication was continued up to 1876.

THE PEOPLE.

This journal, a Weekly, advocating the election of Peter Cooper for President, commenced its existence in Des Moines, September 21st, 1876. George William Jones, publisher.

DAILY BULLETIN.

The Des Moines *Bulletin*, Daily and Weekly, was established January 1st, 1868, by R. G. Orwig, Editor and

Proprietor. At the close of the first year it had a circulation of 2,400 Daily, and 4,200 Weekly copies. Early in 1870, after enjoying a large degree of prosperity, it was merged into the *State Register*. While conducting this paper, which was Republican in politics, Mr. Orwig manifested signal ability as a writer; and although the *Bulletin* was discontinued, as an independent publication, several years since, it is still vividly remembered for the pungency and vivacity of its editorial paragraphs.

PATRONS' HELPER.

This journal was established by W. W. Garretson, July 16th, 1874. In November, 1874, it was purchased by Geo. William Jones, the present editor and proprietor. It is a Weekly publication, and is the accredited State organ of the Grangers. William Duane Wilson is its Associate Editor.

WESTERN JURIST.

The *Western Jurist* was established in 1866, with W. G. Hammond as its Editor. It is now managed by Hon. C. C. Cole, General Editor; A. N. Porter, Associate Editor. Besides these, the following gentlemen are connected with the *Jurist:* J. S. Runnells, E. H. Stiles, O. M. Conover, Norman L. Freeman, and Guy A. Brown.

TEMPERANCE PLATFORM.

The *Temperance Platform* was transferred from Dubuque to Des Moines by W. S. Peterson, Jan., 1866. Mr. P. published the paper until the latter part of the year 1868, when the Grand Lodge of Good Templars bought the subscription list and material, and changed the name to *Temperance Standard*, appointing at the same time, L. M. Holt as Publisher, and W. H. Fleming and J. M. Dixon as Editors. In Arpil, 1869, the paper was sold to L. M. Holt, and taken to Marshalltown, Mr. Dixon still continuing with it.

PLAIN TALK.

Plain Talk, a weekly newspaper of eight pages, published in East Des Moines, was established in 1870, by M. H. Bishard, the present editor and proprietor. It is independent in politics, and is a very readable and interesting journal. It is printed by steam.

Since the above was written, we have received intelligence of the death of Mr. Bishard. He died at his residence in East Des Moines, October 22d, 1876, after a lingering and painful illness. The paper which was conducted by him so faithfully, and so successfully, will hereafter be under the management of his sons.

BAPTIST BEACON.

The *Baptist Beacon*, published in East Des Moines, and edited by A. Robbins and J. B. Hawk, is now in its third volume. It was recently moved from Pella to this city.

ANALYST.

The *Analyst*, a purely mathematical journal, was started by J. E. Hendricks, in 1874.

ANZEIGER.

The *Anzeiger*, a German paper of the Democratic faith, was established by Messrs. Beck & Voigt in 1869. In February, 1874, it became the property of Col. J. Eibeck, its present talented proprietor.

HERALD OF LIBERTY.

The *Herald of Liberty*, Col. J. Eibeck, editor and proprietor, discusses the temperance question generally, on the license side. It was started May 1, 1875. It is also of the Democratic faith. The Colonel edited and published the *Clayton County Journal* at Elkader, during a period of

fourteen years. He also started in 1867, at the same place, the *North Iowa Herald*, a German paper.

SCHOOL JOURNAL.

The *Iowa School Journal* was established in 1859, under the auspices of Mills Brothers, publishers. Its first editors were A. J. Stevens, and Oran Faville. In January, 1872, it passed into the hands of C. M. Greene, proprietor. In June, 1875, Mr. Greene sold it to W. E. Crosby, who removed it to Davenport and changed its name to the *Common School*.

THE MOTOR.

The Industrial *Motor* was established in January, 1872, by T. G. Orwig. In March, 1876, J. Alvah Smith became joint proprietor with Mr. Orwig. Circulation about 1,500.

Appropos to journalism, it may be noted that in the same building in which the *Motor* is conducted, C. A. Johnson, engraver and delineator, makes all kinds of cuts, illustrations of stock, buildings, machinery, etc.

NEW BROOM.

This is the unique and piquant name of a sprightly journal, which was started by Carter, Hussey & Curl, November 25, 1869. Its merits should have given it a long lease of existence, but it was discontinued November 4, 1871. It was edited by Tac. Hussey.

POMOLOGIST.

This journal was established by Mark Miller in Des Moines, January, 1870. It was consolidated with the *Horticulturist*, Albany, N. Y., in July, 1872.

MONROE'S SPECIAL TRAIN.

The only temperance paper published in Iowa at this time,

is *Monroe's Special Train*, and *Trade Reform*, Walnut street, Des Moines. It was established in 1870, for gratuitous distribution, and was issued semi occasionally, for some time, as the necessities of the case seemed to demand. Hereafter, it will be published monthly. Circulation about two thousand.

DES MOINES DIRECTORY.

The first regular city directory was published by Mills & Co., for the years 1866–7. It embraced a historical introduction of much interest. The same enterprising Company published the *Directory* of 1869. The succeeding four volumes, running from 1871, to 1876, were compiled by J. P. Bushnell, of this city. In the preparation of this history, we have been greatly assisted by these volumes.

IOWA PRINTING COMPANY.

In January, 1873, a Joint Stock Company, under the name of State Printing Co., commenced the business of auxiliary or co-operative newspaper printing. The limit of capital stock was fixed at $40,000. The original stockholders were: S. F. Spofford, J. M. Coggeshall, Samuel Merrill, J. H. Brooks, B. F. Gue, John A. Elliott, Wesley Redhead, Ezekiel Clark, James Callanan, and A. R. Fulton.

The following officers were elected: Directors, S. F. Spofford, J. H. Brooks, Wesley Redhead, Samuel Merrill, and B. F. Gue; President, S. F. Spofford; Vice President, Wesley Redhead; Secretary, A. R. Fulton; Treasurer, John A. Elliott; Superintendent, B. F. Gue. At the commencement of its business, about thirty Iowa papers were furnished.

In 1873, this Company consolidated with the Republican Printing Company, and for some time published the *Daily* and *Weekly State Journal*. At the expiration of about six months, this arrangement was dissolved, and the State

Printing Company again restricted its business to auxiliary newspaper printing. In April 1876, the State Printing Company was succeeded by the Iowa Printing Company, the stock-holders of the new Company being mainly those of the old one. The Company is now furnishing about seventy-five papers, mostly for publishers in Iowa and Nebraska. The present officers are, J. H. Brooks, President; James Callanan, Jr., Vice President; Samuel Merrill, Treasurer; A. R. Fulton, Secretary; E. T. Cressey, Manager. H. B. Speed, now of Cleveland, Ohio, preceded Mr. Cressey as manager. The Company has presses, material, and all the facilities for competing with the best houses in the same line of business. This is the only house of the kind in the State; there are but few, indeed, in the United States. This Company alone uses a car load of print paper every five weeks, and in its supplies to publishers, and its advertising patronage, transacts a business amounting to over fifty thousand dollars annually.

PUBLISHING HOUSES.

The oldest Publishing House in Des Moines, is that of Mills & Co., having been established in 1856. This house has grown up from comparatively small proportions, until it now embraces stereotyping, lithographing, and all other improvements which are found in first-class establishments of this character. A large number of books have been issued from this house, besides an immense amount of miscellaneous printing and binding. The Supreme Court reports are printed here.

The Publishing House of Carter, Hussey & Curl, was established February 20th, 1864. The firm first started in a small 12x16 room; and their business increased so rapidly, that a few years since, they erected a large brick building on Walnut street, three stories high, with basement, in which are now carried on the various departments of their

extensive business. The members of the firm are all practical workmen, having been associated with this branch of business from boyhood; and the building which they occupy was erected expressly to fill the requirements of a Publishing House.

There are several establishments in Des Moines, which would properly come under the head of publishing houses, but as all these publish newspapers, we have specially referred to them under the head of journalism.

EDUCATIONAL.

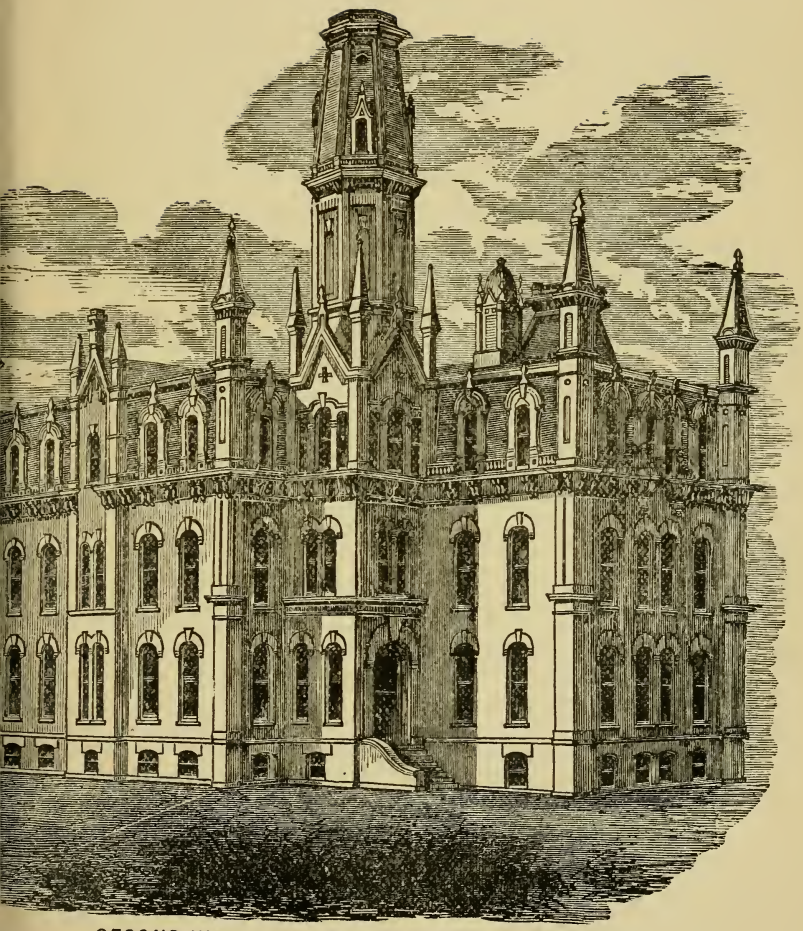
SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

Like many other matters connected with the early colonization of the County, it has been very difficult, and in some cases utterly impossible, to obtain reliable data in reference to our educational system. Much that would have been useful to the historian, and interesting to the public, has gone down to oblivion; and much that remains is in a condition so confused and chaotic, that it defies all arrangement and classification. In writing of the Townships, we have mentioned the first schools, and the first teachers, whenever the materials in our possession gave us opportunity. By reference to these Townships, the reader will discover that the pioneers who settled them, were not remiss in caring for the education of their children.

The report for 1876, of Col. Abernethy, late State Superintendent of Public Instruction, contains an article from the pen of our fellow-citizen, Rev. J. A. Nash, which we take pleasure in presenting here, on account of the information which it gives in regard to the early schools of Des Moines:

"The first school in Des Moines, (then Fort Des Moines,) was taught by Lewis Whitten, Clerk of the District Court, in the Winter of 1846–7, in one of the rooms in "'Coon Row," built by the United States for soldiers' barracks.

In the Summer of 1847, a three months' school was taught by R. L. Tidrick, still of Des Moines. This, also, was kept in one of the Government buildings.



SECOND WARD SCHOOL BUILDING, DES MOINES.

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

In the Winter of 1847–8, a school was taught by a Mr. Davis, and during the next Summer, a three months' school was taught by Andrew J. Stevens.

All the above were subscription schools.

The first organization of public schools was effected Septer 8th, 1849, Byron Rice being the first teacher. The public school fund was supposed to amount, for that school year, to about $60.00. This amount was appropriated for a six months' school, with an additional allowance of $2.50 for each scholar, per term of twelve weeks. The school was commenced in the Methodist Church; but about the first of January, was removed to the new Court House, which was then without outside doors; with inside doors of rough boards; the room being unplastered; the warming apparatus consisting of one box stove and one old cook stove. The school was, by request of the teacher, suspended at the end of three months.

The following year, Charles L. Anderson was employed as teacher, and during the winter of 1850–51, Miss Arizona Perkins, sent out by Gov. Slade, kept school in the Methodist Church.

In the Spring of 1851, $100 were paid for one-half acre of ground for a school-house site on the corner of Ninth and Locust streets, now occupied by Mr. Getchell's residence.

Mrs. Karns taught the school the two succeeding Winters, a term of some three months each.

In November, 1854, a tax of two and one-half mills on the dollar was voted for the erection of a school building, amounting in the aggregate to over $5,000. During the next year, a brick school-house was commenced, which, when completed, cost about $11,000, and was occupied during the Winter of 1856–7 by a corps of four teachers, J. A. Stickney being principal.

With the occupancy of this building, the common-school system was fully inaugurated in Des Moines.

In the Autumn of 1853, a select school was opened by Rev. J. A. Nash, assisted by Mrs. Nash, which was continued as Forest Home Seminary until 1862."

The election record, given in another place, presents the names, in succession, of all the County Superintendents who have been elected, commencing with Samuel Bell, in 1858, and terminating with R. S. Hughes, elected in 1875.

From the State Superintendent's Report for 1875, we glean the following facts, illustrative of our present condition in regard to schools: Polk county contains fifteen district townships. There are 133 ungraded, and 11 graded schools. Of teachers, 113 are males, and 187 females, making an aggregate of 300. The average monthly compensation of teachers is, for males, $41.19, and females, $31.79.

The number of pupils in the county between the ages of five and twenty-one is, males, 6,279, females, 5,993, in all, 12,272. The number enrolled in the public schools is, 8,424. Total average attendance is, 4,769. The average cost of tuition per month, per each pupil, is $1.72.

The number of school houses in Polk county made of frame, is 134; of brick 10; in all, 144. The estimated value of these buildings, is $342,095. The brick structures, some of which are very large and commodious as well as costly, are generally confined to the city. The value of the school apparatus, is $1,037. Number of volumes in the library, one hundred and twenty-six.

In addition to the above statement, we take pleasure in presenting at this point the subjoined exhibit of Polk county schools, from the pen of R. S. Hughes, County Superintendent:

DES MOINES, July 20, 1876.

In the townships of Allen, Beaver, Camp, Delaware, Douglas, Elkhart, Four Mile, Franklin, Jefferson, Walnut, and Washington, there are forty-five sub-districts; in all of

which, there were schools taught during last winter, and in nearly all this summer. In the remaining townships are eighty-eight independent districts, including one in Mitchellville, and one in Altoona.

In the city of Des Moines, including both divisions, East and West, about thirty-five teachers have been employed this year. Nearly one hundred and seventy teachers have thus been employed the present year. I am not prepared to state the number of school houses built during the year, or since the last report; but a number have been built, and more are under contract. The schools generally are in fine condition; and teachers, I trust, are to a good degree awake to the interests of their vocation.

Our city schools would not suffer in comparison with the schools of any sister city.

R. S. HUGHES, *Co. Supt.*

The City of Des Moines is divided into two Independent School Districts, one on the east and the other on the west side of the Des Moines River. We learn from the report of ex-President C. A. Dudley, dated September 15, 1875, that there are four fine and costly school houses in West Des Moines, and that the value of school property in the same District, including sites, buildings, furnitue, and apparatus, is $217,000. The number of rooms in the buildings is thirty-four, seating 1,855 pupils. The school system embraces three departments, the High, Grammar, and Primary.

The High School, of which A. N. Ozias is Principal, had in 1873, 135 pupils; in 1874, 143; in 1875, 107. During the last mentioned year, there were ten graduates. In 1875, the First Ward School, with two teachers, had 106 pupils; the Second Ward, with nine teachers, had 694; the Third Ward, with nine teachers, 630; the Fourth, with four teachers, had 284; making a total of twenty-four teachers, and

1,714 pupils. The number of pupils in this District, according to the report of 1875, was 2,848.

The present Superintendent of the Des Moines Schools, West Side, is J. H. Thompson. The School Board is constituted as follows: President, C. H. Gatch; Secretary, J. M. St. John; Treasurer, J. J. Town; Directors, C. A. Dudley, G. M. Hippie, George H. Maish, P. M. Cassady, and H. L. Skinner.

The Second Ward School House, built in 1867, cost $75,000. Third Ward was built in 1870, at a cost of $60,000. The Fourth Ward structure, erected in 1875, cost a little more than $20,000. The First Ward School House was built in 1874. All of these structures are in Des Moines, West Side. The High School building in East Des Moines cost $30,000.

East Des Moines Independent School District contains four school edifices, with twenty-two rooms, twenty-four teachers, 1,100 enrolled pupils. The entire school property of the District, including sites, buildings, and apparatus, is estimated at $125,000. There are four departments, viz: High, Grammar, Intermediate, and Primary. The Principal of the High School is Isaac Hillis; of the 7th Ward School, Prof. Dixon; of Sixteenth Street School, Captain A. H. Bodkins.

The present School Board is constituted as follows: Superintendent, T. H. Smith; President, H. C. Paige; Secretary, Charles M. Larsh; Treasurer, Captain I. N. Thomas; Directors, George Lendrum, Jeremiah Williams, Jos. Williams, W. H. Fleming, and Jackson Wisehart.

Thus, from the small beginnings thirty years ago, when educational facilities were few and far between in this new country, our benevolent school system, encouraged and fostered by earnestness and intelligent enterprise, has grown and flourished, until in this Centennial year, the County is filled to the full measure of the popular demand with school

buildings; and the City is ornamented with eight structures of this kind, some of which rank among the finest school edifices in the West. The value of school property has increased during the same period, from a sum too insignificant to mention, to the full and rounded proportions, in the City alone, of $342,000; and as a year has expired since the reports were made out by the officers of the respective Districts, it is proper to infer that the value of this property has increased during this time in a ratio corresponding with other city property. It would be right, therefore, to assume that, in 1876, we have an investment, as a City, in school property, worth not much less, if any, than half a million of dollars.

ST. AMBROSE SCHOOLS, (CATHOLIC.)

These schools were organized in 1865, under the principalship of Sister Mary Michael. Sister Mary Bassil is the present principal, assisted by a corps of six Sisters. The present number of pupils is between 300 and 400.

The old Church frame building was first employed for this purpose; but in November, 1872, the schools were transferred to the fine and commodious building which is now occupied. This edifice, composed of brick, three stories high, contains eight large school rooms in the first and second stories. The third story contains two fine halls, running the entire length of the building, which are admirably fitted up for exhibitions and other public exercises.

The cost of the entire structure was about $30,000.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC GERMAN SCHOOL.

These schools were established in 1871, by Father A. N. Sassel, under the management of three Sisters of St. Francis, from the St. Rosa's a Viterbo Convent of La Crosse, Wisconsin. This is a mixed school in which are taught all the

branches of our public schools, in the German and English languages. The number of pupils is 125.

KINDERGARTEN.

The school with the above title commenced August 21st, 1876, on the corner of Ninth and Sycamore, under the management of Mrs. Lucy A. Collins.

ST. PAUL'S GUILD.

This institution was established by Rev. J. Saunders Reed, Rector of St. Paul's Church, January 18, 1874. The following were the first officers: President, the Rector; Vice-President, V. J. Luin; Secretary and Superintendent, I. S. Morse; Treasurer, C. Seeberger; Matron, Mrs. Esther Porter.

In connection with the Guild, there were established two months later, a reading room, free library, Seabury School, twenty-three lodging rooms, free night school, and Holly Tree Coffee rooms. These different enterprises, all under the comprehensive management of the Guild, have accomplished much good.

SEABURY SCHOOL.

This institution, to which reference is made elsewhere in this history, is now under the management of Rev. J. B. Clark, Rector of St. Paul's Parish, Des Moines. It was not established as a competitor of the Public Schools, but as a supplement thereto, as the highest branches of science are taught in it, together with the art of Drawing, Painting in Oil and Water colors, and Vocal and Instrumental Music. It is exclusively for young ladies; and in its special characteristics, it is the only school of the kind in the State. The Trinity term of this school commenced the 11th of September, 1876.

SELECT SCHOOL.

In 1868, Mrs. Winkley, of Pleasant street, Des Moines, established a select school, the principal feature of which is instruction in Instrumental and Vocal Music. The school is well patronized, and is in a prosperous condition.

NORMAL SCHOOL.

The first Teachers' Institute in Polk County, was held in Fifth Street M. E. Church, in 1862. At that time, E. D. Hawes was County Superintendent; and that gentleman, in conjunction with J. W. Doughty, led the exercises. Every year thereafter, until the Institutes were superceded by the County Normal School, in 1875, they met regularly in the city, accomplishing much good in the proper culture of teachers. The Normal School, under the direction of the County Superintendent, R. S. Hughes, met, August 21st, 1876, in Des Moines, at which time the following persons led in the different exercises: Miss Carrie Bassett, late of Sioux City, but now of Des Moines; J. W. King, T. H. Smith, and J. H. Thompson, all of Des Moines.

The State Normal School convened in Des Moines during the past Summer.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

The German-American Independent School Association was organized Sept. 1st, 1868. The object of this school is to teach the elementary branches of science in the German and English languages. The first meeting was held in the room of a young Architect, named Hugo Wildt, a strong friend of the enterprise. Charles Weitz was called to the Chair, and Mr. Wildt was Secretary. Messrs. Stehm, F. Harbach, John Tobien, and Charles Braum, were appointed a committee to canvass the City for pupils, and procure needed funds to start the school.

The old Baptist Church building, on Mulberry street, was selected as the school house.

A permanent organization was effected September 8, 1868, by the election of the following officers: President, C. Youngerman; Vice-President, Andrew Yaun; Sec., Louis Stutz; Treasurer, C. Heil; Directors, C, Beck, Louis Voigt, Phillip Nau, and H. Wildt. The Association was incorporated September 15th, 1868. The first teacher was Jas. I. Weighe, who was followed by C. Beck, under whose management the school made such fine progress, that an assistant teacher, Katie Lynch, was employed. The two teachers were very successful; and in time, through the agency of fairs, festivals, and private subscriptions, a lot was purchased of A. Morris, on Eighth street, for $1,200, on which a fine brick structure, two and one-half stories high, was erected. The entire cost of property is $7,000.

At the time the building was completed, the school averaged seventy-five pupils, and the Association had a membership of forty.

The present officers are: President, A. Mattes; Vice-President, C. Reinig; Secretary, L. Stutz; Treasurer, C. Kurtz; Directors, F. Harbach, F. Iblher, J. F. Hahnen, and Wm. Lotz. Mr. Stutz has held the office of Secretary since the date of organization. The school is non-sectarian.

BUSINESS COLLEGE.

The Iowa Business College of Des Moines was established by Capt. J. W. Muffley, and Prof. C. B. Worthington, November 7, 1865. For about two years, it was connected with the chain of Worthington & Warners' Commercial School; afterward it became the property of Captain Muffly, who continued in charge until December 21, 1872, when he sold the College to Professor J. Shrock. During the seven years preceding the change of proprietors, more than seven hundred students were enrolled, and its graduates compose a

majority of the first class book keepers of the city, while many others are employed at other places in and out of the State. The following gentlemen were connected with the Faculty of the College, at various dates: Hon C. C. Nourse, Commercial Law; W. D. Ellsworth, J. G. Thompson, W. H. Cummins, Writing Department; C. A. Mosier, Phonography.

The College passed May 1, 1874, into the hands of Jennings & Ward, assisted by V. F. Noel, as principal of the Writing Department. In July, 1875, A. C. Jennings became sole proprietor, and it has since been continued under his management. Average number of pupils, one hundred per annum.

LAW COLLEGE.

Iowa Law College, the Law Department of Simpson Centenary College, was established in Des Moines in 1875. This enterprise, though recent, has been crowned with great success. During the past year, thirty students were in attendance. We append here the names of the Faculty: Rev. Alexander Burns, D. D., President; Hon. C. C. Cole, LL.D., (Late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court), Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Commercial Law; Hon. Wm. E. Miller, (late of the Supreme Court of Iowa), Professor of the Law of Agency, Partnerships, etc.; J. B. Bissell, Professor of Pleading and Practice, Equity Law, etc.; J. S. Runnells, M. A., (Supreme Court Reporter), Professor of Criminal Law, Torts, etc.; Hon. Galusha Parsons, M. A., Professor of the Law of Bailment, Insurance, etc.; P. N. Bowman, Professor of the Law of Real Property, Corporations, etc.

DES MOINES UNIVERSITY.

The large building in Des Moines, which is now used for the University, has the following history: In May, 1855,

a Conference of Lutheran Ministers, held in Iowa, decided to inaugurate an institution of learning, which was to be located either at Fort Des Moines, or at some other point within forty miles of this city. It was to be called the Iowa Central College; and the Town or City, within the specified area, which should exercise the greatest liberality in donations of lands and money, was to secure within its limits the location of the institution. It was to be controlled by twenty-one Trustees, elected by the Conference or Synod of Iowa.

The following officers were chosen: President of the College, Rev. R. Weiser: Trustees, F. R. West, P. M. Casady, F. C. and H. C. Grimmel, Rev. T. Bird, R. W. Sypher, F. A. Trisdell, T. K. Brooks, G. W. Shaffer, G. Schramm, A. Garber, Wm. L. Allison, B. Lehman, J. A. Koop, J. W. Walters, Judge Townsend, J. B. Zeigler, T. N. Sherer, J. G. Schaeffer, and S. Kirts.

F. R. West was chosen President of the Board; J. G. Shaffer, Secretary, and R. W. Sypher, Treasurer. There was a meeting of the board in Des Moines, December 5th, 1855, at which time the site of the proposed edifice was purchased for $1,600. A committee was appointed to supervise the erection of the building, consisting of Messrs. Weiser, West, Casady, F. C. Grimmel, and Sypher. A school in connection with the College, was commenced in a small building in town, March 19th, 1856; but it was not self-sustaining. It was, after a protracted struggle, discontinued.

During the Summer of 1856, the corner-stone of the College building was laid with appropriate services, conducted by Prof. Cornell, of Ohio. The building contract was given to Prof. Weiser, for $12,500.

During the same season the walls were erected. For want of available means with which to finish the structure, the committee deemed it advisable to secure, through Hoyt

Sherman, a loan of $5,000, at thirty per cent. interest. In addition to the security given for this loan by the property itself, P. M. Casady, Thompson Bird, R. W. Sypher, F. R. West, F. C. Grimmell, and Madison Young, gave their individual notes. The following season, 1857, the roof was put on; but at this point there was a complete exhaustion of funds, and the enterprise was abandoned. It appears from papers to which we have had access, that $15,278.00 were expended in the purchase of the lot, and work done on the building. Toward liquidating this expense, there were subscriptions to the amount of $6,029.00. At a festival in Des Moines, during the winter of 1856–7, $307.00 were collected. These items exhibit in a strong light the liberality of our citizens, and the interest which they took in the cause of education.

The incorporators of Central College were: Messrs. Weiser, Sherer, Schaeffer, Ritz, Bird, G. W. Shaffer, D. Garner, F. C. and H. C. Grimmel, T. K. Brooks, F. R. West, P. M. Casady, F. A. Trittle, R. W. Sypher, J. B. Zeigler, G. Schramm, W. L. Allison, B. Lehman, J. A. Koop, J. W. Walters, and Judge Townsend.

From 1857, when work on the building was suspended, until 1864, the structure was left exposed to all the inroads which are invited by a deserted building. In November, 1864, a negotiation was made, although not consummated until the following year, by which for the payment of $8,000, the building became the property of the Baptist Church. At a meeting held in Oskaloosa, January, 1865, the following persons were appointed incorporators: J. T. Westover, J. O. Wilson, J. F. Childs, J. A. Nash, S. H. Mitchell, John Williams, O. Wells, and R. M Tracy.

In due time, the property was transferred to the trustees; and a subscription of $12,000.00, in aid of the newly proposed institution, was raised in Des Moines. Work was immediately recommenced on the building, and it was

pushed forward so rapidly, that a school was established in it April, 1866. It was in this way that the University of Des Moines was inaugurated. The manner in which this institution has been conducted, reflects credit upon those who have had its management.

We append the names of the present Faculty of the University: Hon. Frederick Mott, A. M., President and Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy; Rev. J. A. Nash, A. M., Professor of Greek and Natural Science; I. H. DeWolf, A. B., Professor of Latin; E. W. Craven, A. B., Professor of Mathematics; Mrs. J. N. Page, Assistant Teacher and Teacher of Music; W. H. Dickinson, M. D., Lecturer on Physiology; Rev. O. T. Conger, Financial Agent.

COLLEGE LITERARY ASSOCIATION.

As an appendage of Central College, a Literary Association was formed in December, 1856, which gave to the public a series of lectures, some of which were indeed brilliant. In the winter of 1856–7, Will Porter lectured on "Types of Mankind;" Dr. A. Y. Hull, on "Do the Signs of the Times Indicate the Subversion of the Government?" Judge Gray lectured on "Ben. Franklin, and Young America;" and T. H. Sypherd, on "Who Reads an American Book?" These lectures were delivered in Sherman Hall.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.

FIFTH STREET M. E. CHURCH.

In the Fall of 1845, the M. E. Church effected an initial organization in Fort Des Moines, the members whereof were Rev. Abner Rathburn, Jonathan Rathburn, Rev. Ezra Rathburn, Betsey Rathburn, Benjamin T. Hoxie, Joseph Solenbarger, and W. H. Meacham and wife. Mr. Solenbarger was chosen leader of the class. In time the society erected a frame building in which to worship, occupying the site of the present massive brick structure belonging to the Methodist Church on Fifth street.

During the January session, 1848, of the Board of Commissioners, it was ordered that a lot designated by the parties should be donated to the M. E. Church, provided that a suitable building, either frame or brick, not less in dimensions than 24 by 30, be erected thereon within two years from the date of the gift. This building, when completed, as it was, in 1848, was occupied several years as a place of worship; but the growing church found it necessary in time to build another edifice. Work was commenced on the present large structure in 1856, and in September following, Conference was held in it, Bishop Ames presiding.

The Presiding Elders who have officiated in this Church, are reported in another place under the head of Wesley Chapel. The list of Conference appointments to this charge, which is now, perhaps, the most important station within

the bounds of the Des Moines Conference, is too lengthy for insertion. Rev. G. B. Jocelyn, a talented minister and a fine lecturer, was the pastor in 1857; and since then, the pulpit has been filled in part by Revs. Williams, S. M. Vernon, P. P. Ingalls, and T. S. Berry, the present efficient minister.

The agents of Fifth Street M. E. Church, West Side, bought on the 2d day of September, 1876, two lots on the corner of Seventh and High streets, for which they paid $6,250 cash. The object of the Church is, to erect at an early day, on these lots, a religious edifice which will not suffer in comparison with any other structure of the kind in the city.

WESLEY CHAPEL (M. E. C.)

November 4th, 1855, Rev. E. M. H. Fleming, then of Monroe Circuit, preached at Harrison Lyon's school house, East Des Moines. At that time, the wife of Dr. A. Y. Hull was the only recognized Methodist in that part of the city. At a meeting which took place on the first Saturday and Sunday of December, 1855, a class of fourteen persons was organized, with L. Case, leader. The names follow: G. C. Jeffries, Mary J. Jeffries, Thomas, Maria, and Aquilla Hoffman, Sarah N. Lyon, Samuel Kelly, Jacob and Lavina Butts, B. Christman, Allen and Martha Spitzer, and Mrs. A. Y. Hull.

The Presiding Elders for Wesley Chapel, as well as for all other existing M. E. Societies in the city, here follow in order: J. B. Hardy, Sanford Haines, F. W. Cowles, E. H. Winan, J. F. Goolman, J. G. Dimmitt, C. C. Mabee, J. H. Swope, and M. B. Collins. The pastors are as follows: E. M. H. Fleming, A. C. McDonald, J. P. Teter, C. W. Shaw, Henry Turner, P. F. Brazee, J. W. Todd, H. B. Heacock, J. C. Read, H. R. Layton, P. F. Brazee, Amos Wilson, J. H. Swope, J. A. Stayt, H. M. Sexton, J. C. Read, and H. H.

Oneal. Revs. J. G. Dimmett, and J. H. Swope, died in Des Moines.

Wesley Chapel was finished in 1857, Mr. Fleming preaching the first sermon in it. The Trustees were, A. M. Lyon, D. Gear, H. Hoffman, L. Case, and Jacob Butts. Harrison Lyon donated a lot which was afterward sold for the benefit of the Church. The parsonage was built in 1866. Sunday School was organized in 1857, the present Superintendent of which is Doctor J. F. Kennedy, to whom we are indebted for this Church record. The school is very prosperous.

ASBURY CHAPEL, (M. E. C.)

Asbury Chapel, an outgrowth of Wesley Chapel, was erected in 1869, to accommodate the eastern part of the city. J. W. Matheny was the first pastor. The present pastor is Rev. W. H. Manary.

FIFTH STREET, EAST SIDE, (M. E. C.)

This is a neat frame church on the corner of East Fifth and Allen streets, erected in 1874, through the efforts of Rev. J. A. Stayt and F. A. Blasher. It is located south of the railroad, and is designed to serve, as a mission, the neglected portion of the city. It was dedicated early in 1874 by Rev. J. A. Stayt, assisted by Revs. Dr. Hill, Murphy, and others. The pulpit is supplied from Asbury Chapel.

CENTENARY CHURCH, M. E. C.

This church, located on Seventh street, West Side, was dedicated in 1868. The building and the adjacent parsonage, are estimated to be worth $10.000. The first pastor was J. M. Bly, who was followed by R Pomeroy, L. M. Walters, A. J. Andres, and W. H. W. Rees. Mr. Walters, a minister of fine talents and very popular, remained on the charge three years, the longest period allowed by the Constitution of the Church.

BURNS CHAPEL, EAST DES MOINES.

This church, designed to serve the colored element of the city, was built in 1873, many white persons contributing substantial aid. The first pastor was the Rev. Mr. Wells. Rev. W. H. Manary, present pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

The N. S. Presbyterian Church, under the strong and successful leadership of Rev. Thompson Bird, was planted in 1848 at the Fort, one of the garrison buildings being employed as a place of worship. The members, consisting of one man and six women at the start, transferred their religious services from the barracks to the residence of the minister; and in time, as the church expanded into beneficent proportions, a neat frame building, suitable for the times, was erected on the west side of Fourth street, a little south of where the Savery Block now stands. The building committee was composed as follows: R. W. Sypher, Barlow Granger, J. E. Jewett, J. D. Davis and Mr. Bird, the pastor. The bell for this structure—being the first in the county—was sent by Dr. Sprague, of Albany, New York, as a practical donation, to whom Mr. Bird had forwarded a number of autographs of distinguished persons, appreciating as he did the high estimation in which the Dr. held this class of signatures.

Mr. Bird was engaged six years in procuring the means to erect this church building; and after all this time had been expended, he found that but half the work was completed. The edifice, half finished, was still on his hands; but, unfinished as it was, it was used for church purposes, beginning in the Fall of 1853. The stoves for it were a donation from a sister church in Illinois. During this time, Mr. Bird superintended in person the hauling of native lumber from Beaver, of which material the house was con-

structed. He and his sons served the church as sextons eight years. As a matter of course, the salary which the minister was drawing, was very limited; and Mrs. Bird, zealously co-operating with her husband in his efforts for the general good, taught school as opportunity offered. She is still living among us, in the maturity of her Christian graces, enjoying the sweet consciousness of a life well spent in the Master's cause. Eternity alone will reveal the amount of good which she and her lamented husband accomplished in other times, in the interests of Christianity, here in Des Moines, and all Central Iowa.

The church building on Fourth street, which we have just mentioned, and which required so many years of labor to erect, was consumed by fire, along with the bell, in 1867, but a short time before the venerated minister who served its pulpit so faithfully and so well, passed from his sphere of labor to the beatitudes of Heaven.

The First Presbyterian Church, O. S., under the pastorate of Rev. Salmon Cowles, was organized in East Des Moines in 1848, June 4th, with thirteen members, of whom John S. Dean, now gone to his reward, was one of the principal members.

The O. S. Presbyterians built their Church, for $8000, on Locust street, West Side, in 1858, on a lot which cost $1,200; and after having occupied it for many years, before and since the consolidation of the two wings of the church, it was sold in 1875 to the Church of Christ. The last Presbyterian minister who officiated in its pulpit was Rev. W. J. Gill, now pastor of Central Church.

The Trustees were: Wm. Henry Leas, Moses Sheetz, and Abraham Dean, elected in 1854.

The Third Presbyterian Church of Des Moines, (N. S.) was organized January 30th, 1864, with twenty members. Rev. J. M. Phillips was the first pastor. The house of worship was on the corner of Eighth and Sycamore.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The structure known by this name, on the corner of Eighth and High streets, which, up to this time, has been recognized as the largest and finest Church edifice in Des Moines, was erected in 1867, under the auspices of B. F. Allen, and other wealthy citizens. Rev. M. L. P. Hill served this Church, as Pastor, several years. Having resigned, Rev. William J. Gill succeeded to the place. A union of the Presbyterian Churches has been effected, by which the Central has now become the only place of worship in the city for Presbyterians of this order.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

November 19th, 1850, a meeting was held at the residence of J. M. Reinecker, on Walnut street, to consult in reference to the employment of a Baptist minister for this place. Judge W. McKay, G. Berkley, and Mr. Reichenecker, were appointed a committee of correspondence on this subject. Meantime, unknown to these parties, Rev. J. A. Nash was preparing to leave his home in New York, to come Westward, for the purpose of engaging in Mission work.

On the 3d day of January, 1851, Mr. Nash reached Fort Des Moines; and at the house immediately west of the site on which Exchange Block now stands, he and his wife were warmly welcomed by the few Baptists in town. On the Sunday following, Rev. Thompson Bird preached, and in the evening, Mr. Nash, by invitation, preached in Mr. Bird's place. At that time, the only Church building at the Fort belonged to the Methodists. One of the old garrison buildings had been used occasionally by the different denominations; but at the period to which we refer, the Methodist Church, and the old brick Court House, were the ordinary places of worship.

On the 18th day of February, 1851, a covenant meeting

was held at the Court House, at which Rev. B. F. Babcock, of Davenport, and Rev. Samuel Johnson, of Muscatine, were present. At this meeting, the First Baptist Church of this city was organized, with the following members: J. A. Nash, Christiana J. Nash, J. M. and Harriet Reichenecker, John Hays, Wm. McKay, Henry and Huldah Everly, Arozina Perkins, Margaret Luce, Mary Marvin, Sarah Saylor, Granville Berkley, Thomas Roberts, and Charles McKay.

In 1851, steps were taken to build a house of worship; but by a series of most extraordinary delays and disappointments, the building on Mulberry street was not formally dedicated until the 16th day of March, 1856. The County Board of Commissioners proposed to donate a lot to the Church, provided a suitable building was erected within a given time. This chance was forfeited; but the lot which had been designated by the Board, was paid for by Judge McKay, and thus secured to the Church. As this lot was not desirable, an offer was made to sell two lots to the Church, on which the Savery House stands, for $500. This price was considered unreasonably high; and as they were afterwards sold to other parties for $300, this was probably the case.

Finally, an eligible lot was secured by exchanging for it the one already possessed, along with sixty dollars additional. At the covenant meeting in 1851, Mr. Nash was called to the pastorate, on a salary of $450, of which the Church paid $50. The Deacons chosen at the organization were: W. McKay, G. Berkley, and H. Everly, with Mr. Reichenecker as Clerk.

The Church grew from year to year; and during the first fourteen years of its existence, 236 members were received. A proportional increase since then has been maintained.

The present Church building, on the corner of Eighth and Locust, was erected in 1866. It is composed of brick, and is a very large and commanding structure. The pres-

ent Clerk and Treasurer are respectively Prof. J. H. DeWolf and E. T. Cressey.

The present pastor is J. R. Murphy. Mr. Nash was succeeded by L. W. Hayhurst. A large and prosperous Sunday School is connected with the Church.

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH.

The East Side Baptist Church was organized in 1871, with twenty members. For a year and a half after the organization, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. J. A. Nash, after which Rev. Granger B. Smith was called to the pastorate. In 1875, a neat Church edifice, costing $5,000, was erected on the corner of Des Moines street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The Church now numbers a membership of 100. The present pastor is Rev. Wm. Hildreth. The Deacons are Messrs. Perrior and Thomas O'Dea.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

St. Paul's Church was organized in 1855, with Rev. Dr. E. W. Peet as Rector; and in 1857, it had twenty-five communicants. In 1866, F. Brooks was Rector. In 1869, the membership was 112, and the value of Church property was $6,000. In 1873, P. B. Morgan was Rector. The Church is located on Seventh, between Walnut and Locust. Rev. J. S. Reed recently resigned the Rectorship; and the pulpit is at present supplied by Rev. J. B. Clark, principal also of Seabury School.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

The Congregational Church was organized December 6, 1857, with ten members Rev. J. T. Cook, was the first pastor. The Society was incorporated January 11, 1859, the following persons being incorporators: Oliver H. Baker, George S. Green, Henry A. Bigelow, John Teesdale, J. T. Cook, F. Woodruff, Galena F. Kilburn, Stacy Johns, J. A.

Stickney, E. W. Barnum, Daniel Carr, C. C. Dawson, and Levi Richardson.

Mr. Cook retired February 23, 1859, and was succeeded by J. M. Chamberlain, since Secretary of Iowa College at Grinnell. He was installed as pastor of Plymouth Church December 19, 1860, and resigned in 1866. H. S. DeForest became pastor in the latter part of that year. He was ultimately followed by Rev. A. L. Frisbie, the present incumbent.

Shortly after the Church organization, a neat but small building was erected on Court Avenue, and afterward removed to Locust Street, between Sixth and Seventh. From time to time, as the necessities of the enlarging audience demanded, repairs and additions were made to this edifice; but finally the Church multiplied so rapidly in numbers, that measures were taken to build a new house. During this present season, a large and commanding brick structure, the cost of which approximates $40,000, is in due course of construction, on the corner of Locust and Seventh streets, West Side. When finished, it will be an ornament to the city, and will reflect great credit on the religious enterprise, taste and liberality of Plymouth Church.

The following description of this fine Church edifice was furnished by J. P. Foster, of this city: The length, north and south, is 102 feet, and the extreme width, east and west, is 72 feet. The size of the auditorium is 80 by 65 feet, capable of seating 600 persons. The organ loft and choir are back of the pulpit. The pastor's study, 10 by 15, is situated in the northwest corner of the Church, and adjacent to the pulpit. The floor has an elevation of two feet at the end of the auditorium opposite the pulpit, forming an inclined plane hardly visible to the eye. There are two main entrances on Locust street, and two others at the north end. The main entrances lead by easy flights of stairs to the audience room. There will be great ease of ingress and

egress, there being a door at each corner of the auditorium. In the basement is the main lecture room. There are six side and class rooms. The main entrances to the basement are on the west side, and southwest corner. The tower is sixteen feet square, at the southwest corner, and supports a spire 150 feet high. The whole is of gothic architecture, finished in fine style. The windows are of stained glass, and of various patterns; those in the basement are of a neat diamond pattern.

The old Tabernacle of the Plymouth Church, erected in 1858, was sold to Mr. Getchell on the 11th day of September, 1876. Two men, George S. Green and Samuel Stacy, are reported in the *State Leader*, as the originators, in 1855, of the Congregational Church in Des Moines. The organization of the Church, however, did not take place until 1857, as will be seen by the former part of this article.

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

As a result of the ministration of Elder N. Summerbell, this Church was organized in 1856. The Church building was located on Sycamore street, West Side, between Seventh and Eighth. Horace M. Wade was pastor in 1869.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

This body of people had friends among the early settlers of Des Moines; but no organization was effected until the Summer of 1858, when, under the ministration of B. F. Snook, the Church was organized with the following members: Charles Nicholas and wife, J. L. Scott and wife, amuel Bell and wife, Samuel Van Cleve and wife, David Skinner and wife, Thomas Hendryx and wife, B. F. Jones and wife, and David Hunter. All these are now members of this Church ,except Hunter and Hendryx. It is proper to state that P. T. Russell, and others, preached here before the organization.

The first place of worship was a little room over the brick pork-house, at the east end of Market street bridge. The next place was in Savery Block, and the next in Griffith's Block, East Side. From 1858 to 1863, the following preachers served: P. T. Russell, Washington Short, G. T. Carpenter, John Kimmons, James P. Roach, and others.

In 1863, James E. Gaston became pastor; and during his three years of service, a commodious chapel was erected on the old Court House ground. This building was occupied until 1875, when it was sold, and the First Presbyterian Church building, on Locust street, was purchased, and employed as a house of worship. Mr. Gaston was succeeded by the following preachers: A. I. Hobbs, from 1867 to 1871; D. H. Gary, John C. Hay, J. W. Monser, and D. R. Lucas. Value of Church property, $6,000. Present membership, 290.

Present officers: D. R. Lucas, Pastor; C. E. Fuller, Edwin Oaks, Jas. Ferguson, Elders; J. M. Owens, D. R. Ewing, Geo. A. Jewett, W. N. Sanders, Samuel Van Cleve, Wm. Huff, Chas. Nicholas, Jas. L. Scott, and Samuel Bell, Deacons.

Total number of members since organization, 748.

ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH.

In 1856, Professor R. Weiser, President of the old Lutheran College, preached here occasionally; but no permanent organization of the Church was effected until 1865. In May of that year, Rev. Morris Officer, General Superintendent of Home Missions, visited Des Moines, and finding about a dozen members, it was decided to reorganize. In August following, Rev. A. M. Geiger was called to the pastorate; and November 26th, he took charge of the work. In that month, the English Evangelical Church was organized, with twenty-two members.

March 8, 1867, the lot on the corner of Seventh and Syc-

amore, was bought for $1,600; and on the third day of January, 1869, the present Church building which had been erected for $6,000, was dedicated. Rev. Dr. Sternburg preached on the occasion. Rev. A. M. Geiger served six years, and was succeeded by Rev. A. I. Crigler, and afterward by Rev. C. A. Gelwick, the present pastor, who began his labors January 1, 1875.

In 1873, a neat brick parsonage, costing $2,000 was built on the east end of the Church lot. The Church is in a flourishing condition, and entirely out of debt.

GERMAN LUTHERAN.

This Church was organized November 16, 1859, by Rev. John List, who remained with the charge until 1863, when Rev. J. Laetz succeeded, beginning his labors November 22, 1863. There were then about one hundred members. Mr. Laetz was followed by Franz Mather, the present pastor. In 1864, a Church building, thirty by forty in size, was erected on Locust street, West Side, between First and Second.

ST. AMBROSE CHURCH. (CATHOLIC.)

In 1855, Bishop Loras of Dubuque, bought of Thomas G. Given two lots in the original town of Fort Des Moines, for $700. At that time, Rev. Louis De Cailly was temporarily located here, serving the Catholics at various points. There were but few members here at that period. In March, 1856, Rev. George A. Plathe became pastor; and during that year, a frame Church building was erected on Sixth street.

In 1858, important additions were made to the building, so as to accommodate it to the rapidly increasing audience. Mr. Plathe died in the Spring of 1860, and was succeeded in that year by J. F. Brazill, the present incumbent.

On the last day of March, 1862, work was commenced on the large brick edifice on the corner of Sixth and Locust.

It was completed in the fall of 1864. The old building was occupied for a time for school purposes, by the Sisters of Mercy.

Father Brazill has recently purchased two lots on the corner of Seventh and Court Avenue, East Side, for Church and school purposes.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH.

The corner stone of the two story basement of this fine edifice was laid in 1871; and the corner stone of the main building which surmounts the basement, was laid with appropriate exercises, in the presence of thousands of spectators, Sunday, July 2, 1876. The main building is 125 feet long, and 46 wide, with main tower 130 feet high. The entire structure will cost $25,000, and when furnished, $40,000. Rev. A. N. Sassel is pastor.

HEBREW CHURCH.

The organization of this Church, styled, in the Hebrew language Be Nai Ya Shuron, was effected September 28th, 1873, being Youm Kippen, or Day of Atonement. It was instituted under the German-American Reform plan. The first officers were: President, Joseph Kuhn; Vice-President, J. Mandelbaum; Secretary, S. Redstone; Treasurer, L. Hirch. The first Rabbi, Rev. L. Samish, died August 28, 1874.

The present officers are: President, M. Riegleman; Vice-President, D. Goldman; Secretary, Louis M. Doctor; Treasurer, S. Joseph. There are sixty members of this organization; and there are 300 Jews of different branches, in this city. The present Rabbi is Rev. F. Shaur.

Joseph and Isaac Kuhn, well known merchants, were the pioneer Jews of Des Moines. Their business house on Court Avenue was extensively patronized in the earlier days of the city. The latter is still in business.

CHILDREN OF ISRAELITES.

The church of this name was organized in East Des Moines, May 1, 1876, with the following officers: President, S. Sigle; Vice President, Joseph Blotcky; Secretary, M. Levin; Treasurer, B. Cohen; Trustees, M. Cohen, B. Block, and David Sigle. David Cohen, Rabbi. Membership, 25.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN.

This Church was organized, Oct. 15th, 1858. Not long afterward, a frame church building was erected in East Des Moines; and Rev. J. H. Young supplied the pulpit from August 7th, 1858, to November 16th, 1863. He was succeeded by Rev. Thomas McCague. The present pastor is J. P. Cowan.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

In 1856, 22d of May, this Church was organized with sixteen members, Rev. W. Remsburg, pastor.

AFRICAN METHODIST CHURCH.

This church was formed in Des Moines in 1872. The place of worship was on Sycamore, between Seventh and Eighth. The first pastor was Rev. George Benson. In 1873, Rev. Frederick Myres was pastor, and the present one is Rev. Alexander. Membership, 30.

UNITED BRETHREN.

This Church was organized in East Des Moines, 1869. Rev. C. B. Davis was pastor in 1873. The church building is located on Williamson street, between 10th and 11th. They have recently bought lots on Third street, on which they expect to erect a new edifice.

GERMAN METHODIST.

This church had its origin in Des Moines in 1856. The house of worship is on Locust street, between Second and Third. Rev. Phillip Hehner was pastor in 1873, and four years previously, that is in 1869, J. P. Welhelmi filled the pulpit. The present pastor is Rev. Merkill.

UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

This society met in Moore's Hall in 1869, with W. W. King as pastor. The church property is located on the corner of Sixth and Cherry. Mr. King was succeeded by Rev. J. E. Sanford.

SWEDISH CHURCHES.

The Swedish Lutheran Mission was established in East Des Moines in 1870. The same year, a church edifice was erected, and Rev. John Peterson, the present incumbent, was called to the pastorate. Membership, 87.

The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in East Des Moines in 1871, under the pastorate of Rev. John Telleen. A commodious church building has been erected, and the membership now numbers several hundred.

The Swedish M. E. Church was organized November 29, 1874, by Rev. J. Linn, P. E. of this district. The present pastor is Rev. P. J. Berg. Membership, 25.

FIRST SPIRITUAL ASSOCIATION.

This body was organized in Des Moines, October 15th, 1868.

EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION.

This Church was organized in 1865. The church building is located on Sixth street, between Sycamore and Des

Moines, East Side. In 1871, Rev. C. W. Anthony, and in 1873, D. H. Kooker filled the pulpit. Present pastor, Rev. E. E. Condo.

Y. M. C. A.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Des Moines, was organized during the winter of 1856–7. It is not now in existence.

FRIENDS.

The Des Moines Preparative Meeting of Friends was organized in January 1868. Before the regular organization, Enos Grandy preached occasionally to a number of hearers.

COUNTY DENOMINATIONS.

A society of the M. E. Church was organized in Polk City in 1853; and a fine Church building, for the times, was erected in 1856. In 1857, the Christians organized, and built a Church edifice. The Congregational Church of Polk City, organized in 1858, has a fine Church building, in which the Rev. Mr. Hand officiates as minister.

The Christian Church, of Mitchellville, was organized in 1873; and the following year, a Church building was erected, at a cost of $2,500. The M. E. Church has had an organization there for some time; but the prevailing denomination is Universalists, the organization of which dates back to the infancy of the place. It controls the Seminary which is located here.

In 1871, a neat house of worship was built in Altoona, by the Methodists, and Rev. Mr. Holmes was sent there to officiate as pastor. In 1872, the Christians erected their Church building, and Rev. T. F. Brown was called to the pastorate.

The reader is referred to the history of the different Townships for further information in reference to the formation of religious societies in country communities.

THE DIFFERENT ORDERS.

FORT DES MOINES LODGE, I. O. O. F.

The first Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the County, was instituted April 26, 1850, by District Deputy Gardner. Its title was, Fort Des Moines Lodge, No. 25, I. O. O. F. The charter members were: Madison Young, Granville Holland, I. J. Cole, B. F. Allen, C. C. Van, and Marshall Townley. As there was no suitable place to hold the meetings of this body, the Clerk's office, in the old brick Court House, was used for this purpose. The officers of this Lodge, installed by D. D. G. M. Gardner, were as follows: Madison Young, N. G.; C. C. Van, V. G.; M. Townley, R. S.; Granville Holland, Treasurer; B. F. Allen, P. S.; J. E. Jewett, O. G.; B. F. Allen, I. G.; G. Holland, Conductor; Wm. McKay, Warden; A. M. Lyon, R. S. S.; Wm. Krause, L. S. S.; P. M. Casady, R. S. to N. G.; V. W. Kern, L. S. to N. G.; A. M. Lyon, R. S. to V. G.; Wm. Krum, L. S. to V. G.

Mr. Rice was the first representative to the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

The funds to build and furnish the second story of Granville Holland's store-house, on Second street, were contributed by the Odd Fellows; and to these new quarters, Lodge No. 25 was removed. There was but a small band at the start, but the numbers increased so rapidly, that in a short time, they counted forty-three, embracing the finest possible

material. In 1856, they removed to the third story of Exchange Block, corner of Third and Walnut.

W. W. Moore, better known as Billy Moore, was the first presiding officer in this Block. This gentleman, so favorably known in our community, has held, from first to last, all the offices in the Subordinate Lodge, and the higher offices in the State Lodge; and for six years, has been Representative in the Grand Lodge of the United States.

In 1862, this Lodge removed to more commodious quarters on Court Avenue, from which in 1870, it was transferred to finely furnished rooms in Vincent's Block, corner Walnut and Seventh.

In 1853, a lot was purchased on Court Avenue, and a brick block, containing three store rooms, has been erected thereon, all belonging to this Lodge. It now numbers 107 members in good standing.

JONATHAN LODGE.

Jonathan Lodge No. 137, I. O. O. F., was instituted in Des Moines in 1865, by D. D. G. M., W. W. Moore. It now numbers 78 members in good standing.

CAPITAL LODGE.

Capital Lodge No. 106, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 5th, 1857, by dispensation of the G. M. of the Grand Lodge, dated May 16, 1857, with the following as charter members: H. H. Griffiths, Will Tomlinson, M. L. Devin, P. Van Horn, John P. Haskins and Wm. Remsburg. The first officers of the Lodge were: H. H. Griffiths, N. G.; Will Tomlinson, V. G.; J. P. Haskins, R. S ; Wm. Remsburg, Treasurer.

The above officers were installed by Dept. G. M., Samuel Noel, assisted by Dept. Grand Marshal, Samuel Noble.

This Lodge was regularly incorporated under the State laws, January 1st, 1868. The names of the Trustees for

the first year, commencing with the last named date, were, M. W. Miller, Robert Lyons, and S. Green.

The officers for the first half of the Centennial year are as follows: W. S. Grimes, N. G ; S. B. Roberts, V. G.; R. W. Russell, R. S.; J. W. Dye, P. S., and S. Green, Treasurer. For the last half of the year, S. B. Roberts, N. G.; R. W. Russell, V. G.; Jas. H. Stevenson, R. S.; Wm. Hallett, P. S., and S. Green, Treasurer. The present Board of Trustees are, Wm. H. Kessler, F. A. Shepard, and Robert McNulty. The above officers were installed by D. D. G. M., J. C. Read. Total membership at this date, 107. This Lodge has recently built a fine hall on the corner of East Sixth and Sycamore.

REBECCA LODGE, I. O. O. F.

The Iowa Rebecca Degree Lodge, was granted a charter November 26, 1871, by John Gundaker, G. M., of the State of Iowa, with the following Brothers and Sisters as charter members: W. W. Moore and Mary R. Moore, S. H. Haskell and Mary Haskell, W. F. Thomason and Mary M. Thomason, Lamoine Mott and Gertrude C. Mott, George Sneer and Pauline E. Sneer, Geo. C. Jeffries and Mary J. Jeffries, D. V. Cole and Henrietta N. Cole. This Lodge started with fourteen members, and now numbers 86.

The present officers are, Wm. H. Kessler, N. G.; Julia Russell, V. G.; Meda Kessler, R. S.; Wm. Musson, P. S.; and Rachel McNulty, Treasurer.

EBENEZER ENCAMPMENT.

Ebenezer Encampment, No. 16, I. O. O. F., was instituted March 15, 1853, by dispensation. The date of charter was October 20, 1869, showing the following charter members: C. C. Van, P. M. Cassdy, W. W. Moore, Peter Myers, R. L. Tidrick, D. V. Cole, Alexander Bowers. The present officers are, James Watson, C. P.; Ed Anderson, S. W.;

William Musson, H. P.; J. H. Stevenson, Scribe; Peter Lambert, Treasurer. The present number of members is ninety-eight.

CAPITAL COUNCIL.

Capital Council, No. 9, Royal and Select Masters, was instituted June 17, 1867, with the following charter members: Lewis Kinsey, Absalom Morris, J. H. Dykeman, J. M. Griffiths, H. H. Griffiths, S. M. Good, J. B. Miller, J. E. Fleischman, R. C. Hunter, R. W. Sypher, and Charles Linderman. The present officers are, J. C. Macy, T. I. M.; Hiram Robinson, R. I. M.; M. T. V. Bowman, W. P. C. W.; Seth Graham, Tr.; D. F. Calender, Recorder; John C. Parrish, Captain of Guards; P. H. Skinner, Conductor; John W. Lewis, Steward; R. C. McMillan, Sentinel. Membership numbers ninety.

HOME LODGE.

Home Lodge, No. 370, A. F. and A. M., was instituted under Dispensation, January 12, 1876, with a membership of 26. This Lodge was instituted under charter, June 11, 1876, by M. W., Deputy G. M. S. D. Welling, of Pioneer Lodge, No. 22.

The officers elected for one year, under charter, are: Wm. Brunton, W. M.; J. R. Crawshaw, S. W.; C. S. Binkley, J. W.; D. Tisdale, Treasurer; L. E. Ayres, Secretary; D. E. Perkins, S. D.; H. Cunningham, J. D.; James Allen, S. Steward; Wm. Langley, J. Steward; D. W. Johnson, Tyler. Present membership, thirty-six.

CAPITAL LODGE.

Capital Lodge, No. 110, A. F. and A. M., was instituted by dispensation, June 15, 1857. Date of Charter, June 2, 1858. The charter members were J. M. Griffiths, W. M.; J. A. Williamson, S. W.; J. W. Stanton, J. W.; H. H. Grif-

fiths, Stewart Goodrell, and T. K. Brooks. The present officers are, Crom Bowen, M. W.; John C. Macy, S. W.; R. D. Bennett, J. W.; C. Youngerman, Treasurer; Enos B. Hunt, Secretary; R. A. Patchin, S. D.; Henry Fleming, J. D.; James Laing, and L. G. Krull, Stewards; R. C. McMillen, Tyler. Present membership 154.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER.

Corinthian Chapter, No. 14, R. A. M., was instituted by a dispensation, June 14, 1856. The charter members were: Lovell White, J. E. Jewett, John Youngerman, C. P. Luse, A. Y. Hull, J. M. Griffiths, A. Morris, W. T. Smith, and J. H. Given.

The present officers are M. T. V. Bowman, M. E. H. P.; W. W. Moore, E. K.; J. W. Cheek, E. G.; George H. Maish, Treasurer; J. H. Kennedy, Secretary; Geo. H. Maish, Trustee; H. Robinson, P. G.; A. R. Townsend, C. H.; P. H. Skinner, R. A. C.; G. W. Fuller, G. M., 3d Veil; Ed. Gotwal, T. G. M., 2d Veil; Henry Sessions, G. M., 1st Veil; K. C. McMillan, Tyler. Number of members 110.

EMANUEL CONSISTORY.

Emanuel Consistory, No. 2, A.·. A.·. R.·., was organized in 1867. The charter members were: Joseph M. Griffiths, H. H. Griffiths, John A. Elliott, Wesley Redhead, I. N. Thomas, W. Calberts, S. M. Good, Charles Linderman, J. B. Tiffin, Cyrus A. Mosier, Thomas Boyd. The first officers were: John A. Elliott, C. in Chief; Wesley Redhead, Seneschal; I. N. Thomas, Preceptor; C. C. Carpenter, Chancellor; J. M. Griffiths, M. of State; William Alberts, Almoner; Charles J. McKay, Registras; S. M. Good, Treasurer; H. H. Griffiths, Prelate. The present officers are John C. Parrish, Commander in Chief; C. A. Weaver, Seneschal; E. N. Kliptine, Preceptor; Geo. H. Maish, Chancellor; C. C. Carpenter, M. of State; William Alberts, Almoner; Hiram Robinson,

Registras; S. M. Good, Treasurer; H. H. Griffiths, Prelate; E. E. Ainsworth, M. of Ceremonies; K. C. McMillan, Capt. of the G.

PIONEER LODGE.

Pioneer Lodge, No. 22, A. F. & A. M., was instituted by dispensation, January 16th, 1850, and chartered June 7th, 1850. The charter members were: J. E. Jewett, W. M.; Benjamin Coffeen, S. W.; W. T. Marvin, J. W.; John W. Rush, Secretary; T. G. Burbridge, Treasurer; J. D. Davis, S. D.; J. S. Dicks, Tyler. The first person initiated was Madison Young, who became a member, February 23d, 1850. The present officers are: S. D. Welling, W. M.; C. B. Worthington, S. W.; George Walker, J. W.; Seth Graham, Treasurer; J. J. Payne, Secretary; Henry W. Sessions, S. D.; H. R. Heath, J. D.; K. C. McMillan, Tyler. Present number of members, 190.

TEMPLE COMMANDERY.

Des Moines Commandery was organized in 1857. Its name was changed to Temple Commandery K. T. No. 4, in 1866, with Sir John Scott, E. C.; Solomon McCain, A. Morris, E. F. Hooker, J. Y. Hopkins, and Thomas Thompson, as charter members. The present officers are: Sir E. E. Ainsworth, Eminent Commander; Sir J. C. Macy, Generalissimo; Sir Hiram Robinson, Captain-General; Sir Seth Graham, Treasurer; Sir N. R. Townsend, Recorder; Sir Geo. H. Maish, Trustee. Officers appointed: Sir J. C. Parish, Prelate; Sir J. H. Kennedy, Senior Warden; Sir Phil. H. Skinner, Junior Warden; Sir Jesse W. Cheek, Warden; Sir Geo. Sneer, Sword Bearer; Sir Chas. Brunsdon, Standard Bearer; Sir Henry Shepherd, 1st Guard; Sir M. T. V. Bowman, 2d Guard; Sir W. W. Moore, 3d Guard; Sir K. C. McMillan, Sentinel.

The above named officers were elected, September 8th,

1876. Membership 104. The present high position of this Commandery is owing to the active efforts, during the past eight years, of John C. Parrish, past E. C.

EASTERN STAR.

Eastern Star Lodge, Adopted Masonry, received its charter December 12th, 1871. The charter members were: Sarah E. B. Todd, Y. C. Worthington, C. M. Lewis, Lizzie Robinson, E. E. Burdick, H. A. Cole, E. C. Long, T. L. Allen, M. E. McElroy, C. C. Welling, N. E. Webber, E. Moore, H. M. Bentley, S. A. Brinkley, Josephine Bowman, M. V. Murphy, S. A. Watts, Mrs. S. M. Good, Mrs. W. J. Stevens. The first officers were, E. H. Carter, W. P.; H. A. Cole, M.; Mrs. W. J. Stevens, A. M.

NORTH STAR.

The North Star Lodge, (colored) No. 31, F. A. & Y. M., was in working order in 1872. The first officers were: J. S. Carter, W. M.; S. B. Smith, L. W.; E. Morton, J. W.; J. Long, T.; and A. W. Birney, S. It was reorganized, January 6th, 1875, with the following officers: John Page, W. M.; A. Brown, S. W.; J. Logan, J. W.; J. Lewis, S.; J. Allen, T. The present officers are: J. Page, W. M.; A. Brown, S. W.; J. Johnson, J. W.; J. Lewis, S.; and M. Bell, T. Present membership, 40.

BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.

The Masonic Mutual Benefit Association of Iowa, was organized, August 1st, 1872, and incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa. The first officers were: Wm. Merrill, President; Wm. Lowry, Vice President; George A. McVicker, Secretary; W. A. Colton, Treasurer. Directors: G. H. Maish, E. B. Hunt, and C. B. Worthington. The officers and trustees for 1876 are: President, Wm. Lowry, Capital Lodge, No. 110; Vice President, Gen. N. B. Baker,

Capital Lodge, No. 110; Secretary, George A. McVicker, Pioneer Lodge, No. 22; Treasurer, W. A. Colton, Pioneer Lodge, No. 22; George C. Baker, Operative Lodge, No. 308; Moses Strauss, Pioneer Lodge, No. 22; Geo. H. Maish, Capital Lodge, No. 110. Present membership, 130.

IMPROVED ORDER OF RED MEN.

The following interesting history of the Improved Order of Red Men, has been kindly furnished for our use by Past Sachem Knight, of this city:

Of American origin, this is the oldest Order in the United States, having been established, originally, at Annapolis, Maryland, in 1771. In 1812, when party strife was running high, and working mischief, a Society of Red Men was organized among the garrison at Fort Mifflin, on the Delaware river; and the result, in promoting harmony and good fellowship, where hatred had previously existed, was observable by all.

This Order is devoted to freedom in its broadest sense, and its motto is, Freedom, Friendship, and Charity.

The Saux Tribe, or Sacs Tribe, as we think it ought to be called, was organized in Des Moines, in October, 1871. Its first officers were: Sachem, S. S. Davis; Senior Sagamore, J. H. Gilbert; Junior Sagamore, Wm. Johnson; Chief of Records, J. P. Crosson; Keeper of Wampum, G. B. Wicks; Prophet, P. D. James. Present officers: Sachem, C. L. Smith; Senior Sagamore, E. D. Wiley; Junior Sagamore, H. J. Childress; Chief of Records, W. E. Davis; Keeper of Wampum, C. C. Porter; Prophet, T. M. Knight; Trustees, T. M. Knight, Wm. Brunsdon, and E. D. Wiley.

This Order numbers, in the United States, between sixty-five and seventy thousand members, and is most numerously represented on the Atlantic and Pacific slopes.

UNITED WORKMEN.

Des Moines Lodge, No. 18, Ancient Order of United Workmen, was organized, March 15th, 1865. The object of this Order is to harmonize Capital and Labor, so as to abolish all invidious distinctions which may attach to the relation between the employer and employe. At the start, this Lodge had fifteen members; it now numbers forty. Its present officers are: Past Master Workman, P. F. Bartle; Master Workman, Geo. W. Bristow; General Foreman, W. H. W. Rees; Overseer, George W. Smith; Recorder, J. J. Stuckey; Guide, J. W. King; Financier, Curtis Wells; Receiver, Geo. W. Walker; Inside Watchman, R. E. Gick; Outside Watchman, James Allen; Deputy Grand Master Workman, J. W. Muffly.

CAPITAL LODGE, NO. 14.

Capital Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, was organized, February 2d, 1875. The charter members were: S. M. Good, J. O. Skinner, George F. Walker, John A. Bryan, Charles H. Ward, William Hadgely, Wm. H. Shaw, Samuel Green, J. F. Kennedy, Clarence B. Jones, G. B. Hammer, Isaac Brandt, George Garver, Samuel M, Elliott, W. H. Fleming, George Lendrum, Homer C. Paige. Walker B. Mayer, and D. M. Haverly.

The first officers were: J. F. Kennedy, P. M. W.; Isaac Brandt, M. W.; G. B. Hammer, G. F.; H. C. Paige, O.; G. F. Walker, Recorder; W. H. Shaw, F.; Samuel Green, R.; J. A. Bryan, G.

The present officers are: W. H. Fleming, P. M. W.; W. A. Haskell, M. W.; James Hunter, G. F.; J. S. Burnett, O.; W. N. Heaton, Recorder; Samuel Green, R.; W. H. Shaw, F.; Fred Matter, J. W.; John Koenigsberger, O. W.; J. M. Ferree, G. The Trustees are: Walker B. Mayer, Wm. W. Moore, and W. W. Phillips.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

Myrtle Lodge, No. 9, Knights of Pythias, was organized in this city, February 22d, 1871, with the following officers: M. T. V. Bowman, P. C.; W. W. Moore, V. P.; S. M. Good, W. C.; L. Voight, W. V. C.; C. T. Hewitt, R. S.; W. A. Abbett, F. S.; G. B. Wicks, W. B.; C. Bathman, G.; Charles Weitz, I. S.; C. Youngerman, V. S. The following named persons, with the above, were also charter members: A. Stollberg, L. M. G. Barnett, L. Harbach, W. L. White, G. Vincent and George A. McVicker.

This Lodge was reorganized, March 22d, 1875, with the following officers: G B. Wicks, D. G. C.; C. Weitz, P. C.; S. M. Good, C. C.; L. Stutz, V. C.; L. Harbach, P.; Charles Hewett, K. of R. and S.; F. Harbach, M. of E.; A. Stollberg, M. of F.; Geo. A. Warner, M. A.; Charles Harbach, I. G.; and L. Hirsch, O. G.

The present officers are, Chas. Hewitt, P. C.; Chas. Weitz, C. C.; Samuel Stansbury, V. C.; E. Jaynes, P.; A. Simpson, K. of R. & S.; A. W. DeForest, M. F.; F. Harback, M. E.; W. W. Cole, M. A.; J. H. Dumont, I. G., and F. Schroeder, O. G.

The Lodge is in good condition, in every particular, numbers at this date, fifty members and is rapidly increasing.

This Order originated in this country, about thirteen years ago. Its founder was Justus H. Rathbone, and its five original members were, Robert Allen Champion, David L. Burnett, Edward S. Kimball, M. D., and Wm. Henry Burnett. The Order is founded on the old historic incident of Damon and Pythias, and Dionysius of Cyracuse.

KNIGHTS OF PITHIAS.

The Capital City Lodge, No. 29, was instituted, March 22, 1876. The Charter members were: W. P. Bently, J. C. Savery, J. S. Clarkson, George H. Bugbee, C. S. Wilson,

S. M. Elliott, W. S. Grimes, J. L. Keyes, Galusha Parsons H. L. Skinner, J. S. Runnells, and William Foster.

The officers elected for first term were: W. P. Bentley, P. C.; J. C. Savery, C. C.; J. S. Runnells, V. C.; G. Parsons, P.; J. L. Keyes, K. of R. and S.; S. M. Elliott, M. of F.; W. Foster, M. of E.; C. S. Wilson, M. of A.; W. S. Grimes, I. G.; H. L. Skinner, O. G.; Trustees, J. L. Keyes, W. Foster, and J. C. Savery.

Present officers: J. C. Savery, C. C.; George W. Savery, P. C.; J. S. Runnells, V. C.; Galusha Parsons, Prelate; J. L. Keyes, K. of R. and S.; William Foster, M. of E.; C. S. Wilson, M. of A.; N. B. Lichty, N. of F.; L. A. Crane, I. G.; and Andrew Madole, O. G.

Membership at this date, thirty-six. This Lodge is in a prosperous condition, and occupies one of the finest appointed rooms in the State.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

The Union was organized September 2, 1868. The first President was Col. W. L. Vestal, now of the Storm Lake *Pilot*. It was re-chartered in 1873, with the following members: Frank Bradley, Frank Knapp, S. W. Russell, George Palmer, John H. Fitzgerald, Alexander McCaully, and O. H. Mathews.

The present officers are: President, P. L. Cook; Vice-President, Julius Ward; Financial Secretary, G. O. Wheeler; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, W. D. Ferree; Treasurer, S. W. Russell; Sergeant-at-Arms, W. H. Humes.

CALEDONIAN CLUB.

The Des Moines Caledonian Club was organized, September 10, 1872, and incorporated the following year. It was placed under the management of the appended officers: President, G. R. Mackintosh; Vice President, Geo.

E. Lillie; Treasurer, John Sneddon; Secretary, L. M. Squair; Janitor, John Burnside.

The present officers are: Chief, L. M. Squair; 1st Chieftain, Alex. Tulley; 2d Chieftain, G. R. Mackintosh; 3d Chieftain, J. D. Ogelvie; 4th Chieftain, G. E. Lillie; 5th Chieftain, John Sneddon; Janitor, Andrew Sneddon.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The Des Moines Library Association was organized December 17th, 1866, with the following officers: President, H. S. DeForest; Vice President, J. M. Elwood; Treasurer, W. S. Pritchard; Recording Secretary, S. A. Ayres; Corresponding Secretary, J. R. Carey; Librarian, C. A. Dudley; Directors, John McWilliams, C. H. Gatch, F. M. Mills, W. W. Williamson, W. S. Peterson, and Geo. W. Jones.

During the years of its existence, the Association has had for its Presidents the following persons: C. H. Getchell, Hoyt Sherman, Jr., John Mitchell, John A. Elliott, and J. B. Miller.

The Library was transferred to the management of the ladies, May 2d, 1876, when the following officers were chosen: President, Mrs. Sarah M. Dickinson; Vice President, Mrs. L. D. Ankeney; Secretary, Mrs. Sarah D. Goode; Treasurer, Mrs. Martha C. Callanan; Directors, Mrs. Bina M. Lunt, Mrs. Rachel E. Getchell, Mrs. Dora M. Stewart. Library Committee, Mrs. Ada North, Mrs. Belle Choate, Mrs. Towne, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. L. Stark. Lecture and Entertainment Committee, Mrs J. S. Runnells, Mrs. Frank Butler, Mrs. Galusha Parsons, Mrs. J. S. Clarkson, Mrs. Thos. Hatton; on Art Relics, Miss S. J. Porter, Mrs. Seeberger, Mrs. Hoyt Sherman, Mrs. C. H. Gatch.

Under the management of these ladies, new life has been infused into the old Library. They have removed the cases, books and all, into the elegant rooms in Mr. Youngerman's new building, on Fourth street.

Volumes in Library, 4,000. Librarian, Miss E. L. Griffiths.

GERMAN TURNERS' ASSOCIATION.

This Association was organized August 19, 1866, with 30 members. The officers were: President, Adam Baughman; Secretary, F. Harbach; Turnwart, John Schwelky; Cashier, F. Young.

The body now numbers seventy-five members, and occupies a rented Hall; but two lots have been purchased in the city, on which suitable buildings will be erected. The present officers are: President, Louis Fritz; Vice-President, M. Newman; Secretary, H. Hanson; Corresponding Secretary, Philip Conradi; First Turnwart, L. Dippel; Second Turnwart, G. Oeltjendier; Cashier, Philip Klumb; Singwart Franz Jlbher; Ziegwart, John Kruger; Trustees: President, William Lutz; Secretary, Philip Ganz; Treasurer, F. Harbach.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.

This Society inaugurated in this city by Thomas Brooke, was organized January 5, 1874, with the following officers: President, T. M. Knight; Vice-president, T. D. Hulme; Treasurer, J. Fellows; Trustees, J. Dixon, and S. Lowe; Secretary, Thomas Brooke. The present officers are: President, S. Lowe; Vice-President, T. M. Knight; Treasurer, A. Lewis; Trustees, H. Davis, and J. Storey; Auditors, T. Kemp, and T. Andrews; Recording Secretary, W. Brunsdon; Financial Secretary, Thomas Brooke. Number of members, seventy-five. The Society meets at the Red Men's Hall.

In the great procession on the last Fourth of July, in Des Moines, the Car of this Society attracted much attention. Brittannia and Columbia, respectively represented by Miss Josephine Lemmons and Miss Alma Lowe, were seated at

opposite extremities of the car, Columbia in front, in a chair representing a shield with the Stars and Stripes, with a wreath of Peace in her hand. The chair in which Brittannia sat, was made in the shape of an English Shield, displaying the Union Jack. Midway between these two ladies, with an arm outstretched toward each, was a sailor, (Alex. Lewis,) from the Ship of Liberty, supporting the British flag in one hand, and the American in the other. The forty counties of England, and the thirty-eight States of the American Union, were appropriately represented by young ladies, the former with head dresses of oak leaves and roses, and the latter with flags displaying the Stars and Stripes. As the car passed under the archway, its inmates sang "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," with thrilling effect.

CONDUCTORS' BROTHERHOOD.

The Des Moines Division, No. 38, of the Conductors' Brotherhood, was organized December 21st, 1875, with the following officers: C. E. Smith, C. C.; J. C. Hewitt, A. C. C.; O. S. Ward, Treasurer; C. W. Curtis, Secretary; A. McBride, Sr. G. of C.; G. W. Bull, Jr. C. of C.; D. Bowers, I. S.; T. Crouch, O. S. The charter members, besides those named, were, J. A. Taylor, J. A. Platt, C. M. Burnet, Charles Morse, Wils Edmundson, G. W. Donaldson.

The present officers are, G. W. Bull, C. C.; A. McBride, A. C. C.; D. Bowers, Sr. C. of C.; L. R. Carver, Jr. C. of C.; J. A. Taylor, Secretary; O. S. Ward, Treasurer; J. W. Robinson, O. S.; Thos. Cronch, I. S.

ENGINEERS' BROTHERHOOD.

The Des Moines Division, No. 113, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, was organized February 12th, 1870. The first officers elected were, C. S. Binkley, C. E.; W. W. Slade, F. E.; J. J. Goodwin, S. E.; M. S. Barney, F.

A. E.; G. W. Warren, S. A. E.; William Sprague, Guide, and Henry Marvin, Chaplain.

The present officers are, A. W. Springer, C. E.; Ben. Reese, F. E.; J. E. Binkley, F. A. E.; Thomas Gibney, S. E.; G. W. Russell, T. E.; J. L. Baueler, F. A. E.; A. C. Knight, Guide, and G. W. Clark, Chaplain.

John Rafferty, a member of this Division, was killed, July, 1873, at the time when a train west of Des Moines was attacked by robbers, and the engine thrown from the track. His death occurred almost instantly, as the engine fell over on its side.

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS.

This Society was organized June 25th, 1876. Its officers are David Bulger, President; James McNeeney, Vice President; Peter Heeney, Recording Secretary; Thomas Killeen, Financial Secretary; Nicholas Walsh, Treasurer. This organization has 45 members, and its numbers are steadily increasing. Its main object is, Irish benevolence.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

The Polk County Woman's Suffrage Association was organized in Des Moines, October 24th, 1870. The second meeting of the Society was held, November 25th, 1870, in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, Mr. C. E. Fuller in the chair. The first permanent officers were: President, Mrs. S. Sharman; Vice Presidents, Mr. C. E. Fuller, and Dr. James Wright; Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. Withrow; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. M. B. Haven; Treasurer, Mrs. M. C. Callanan; Executive Committee, Mrs. M. Gray Pitman, Mrs. C. C. Nourse, Mrs. Mary A. Work, Mrs. Deborah Cattell, and Mrs. M. J. Coggeshall. A Constitution was duly adopted.

At the same meeting, arrangements were made to secure the following speakers: Miss Lucy Stone, Rev. C. R. Pom-

eroy, Susan B. Anthony, Mr. C. E. Fuller, and others. Arrangements were made to address a memorial to Congress in behalf of Woman Suffrage. Mesdames Haven and Brown were appointed to organize Societies at Hanover, Polk City, Mitchellville, and other places.

At a meeting of the Association, held July, 1871, it was reported that the services of the following speakers had been secured: C. C. Cole, Rev. W. J. Gill, Judge Maxwell, J. P. Davis, Mrs. Harbert, Mrs. Callanan, and Mrs. Savery.

Bishop Haven, of the M. E. Church, delivered a fine address, on this subject, at the Christian Church, in Des Moines. The Methodist Annual Conference, then in session, was waited on, by a committee of Woman Suffragists, consisting of Lizzie B. Reed, Maria Gray Pitman, Mrs. M. W. Porter, and Rev. J. H. Lozier. A paper was read to the Conference, followed by remarks from Mrs. Reed, to which Bishop Haven made an appropriate response, endorsing Woman's Rights. The paper was referred to a committee of one from each district, whose report was adopted by a vote of 32 for, and 13 against. The report referred to, distinctly favored the enfranchisement of wo man.

July 6th, 1871, the Association passed resolutions denying all affiliation with those leaders who teach that liberty is license, and who throw discredit on the sacred bond of marriage. May 6th, 1875, resolutions were passed, complimentary of Governor Carpenter, for his appointment of Mrs. Cattell to a responsible position, as one of the Committee of Investigation in reference to the condition of the Reform School, and for his words of approval of the cause, in his last message. August, 1876, resolutions furnished by Mrs. Maria S. Orwig, demanding the ballot for woman, and declaring her right to emancipation from the prejudice and ignorance which keep her in a subordinate position, industrially, socially, and politically, were reaffirmed. At this meeting, Gen. Given was thanked for the eloquent speech

he delivered in the House last winter, in favor of Woman Suffrage. Messrs. Mitchell, Tuttle, Kasson, Brandt, Madden, and Given, members of the General Assembly, during the past few years, were especially thanked for the interest they have taken on this subject.

This Society, which is in a prosperous condition, has never failed to hold its regular meetings, and has never failed, also, in its mission, to vindicate woman, and to emancipate her from the disabilities under which she is laboring.

The following officers were chosen in May last: President, Mrs. E. H. Hunter; Vice Presidents, Mrs. D. Cattell, Mrs. L. M. Scott, and Mrs. C. A. Warner; Recording Secretary, Miss Martha Angle; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. M. S. Orwig; Treasurer, Mrs. M. Gray Pitman; Executive Committee, Mrs. M. J. Coggeshall, Mrs. Mary A. Work, Mrs. Lydia G. Aldrich, Mrs. L. M. Davis, and Mrs. A. R. Ankeny.

The Legislature, in its election of officers, last winter, chose Miss Hallett and Miss Rayburn, as Enrolling and Engrossing Clerks; and Mrs. J. M. Dixon and Miss Annie Christy, Paper-Folders, all of the Senate; and Miss Evans and Mrs. Berry, Enrolling and Engrossing Clerks, and Misses Baker, Whedon, and Griffiths, Paper-Folders, all of the House. Misses Johnston and Smith were appointed Legislative Postmistresses.

JEWISH ORDER.

Lazarus Samich Lodge of the order of K. S. B. was organized in this city, November 17, 1876, with the following officers: President, M. Riegelman; Vice-President, M. Strauss; Treasurer, J. Mandelbaum; Secretary, L. M. Doctor; Monitor, H. Riegelman; Asst. M., H. Younkers; Achieser, M. Schloss; Aliezur, I. Riegelman; Guardian, H. Hiller; Assistant, L. Ortlieb; L. Hirsch, Grand Saar, State of Iowa; Rev. F. Shaur, Lecturer.

TEMPERANCE.

The following very interesting account of the Independent Order of Good Templars in Polk county, was compiled by W. H. Fleming, Private Secretary of Governor Kirkwood:

The order of Good Templars, which was founded, as it at present exists, in the year 1852, in the State of New York, was introduced into Iowa in 1853; and on the 24th day of November, 1854, the Grand Lodge was organized at Iowa City; twelve representatives being present from eight lodges. Among those in attendance who have since become more or less prominent, are George D. Woodin, Isaac Whittan, of Cedar Rapids; and General N. P. Chipman. About the same time, Star Lodge was formed in Fort Des Moines. Among its leading members were Hon. William McKay. About a year later, Friendship Lodge was organized at Fort Des Moines. Shortly afterward, Saylorville Lodge was formed.

On the 29th day of January, 1857, Demoine Lodge was instituted in East Des Moines; and it commenced a career of incalculable influence, which has been extended to the present time. In all this period, that lodge has never missed a meeting. During the same year, both lodges in Des Moines, (West Side) ceased working. J. M. Cree was the first representative to the Grand Lodge from Polk county. He represented both Des Moines and Saylorville lodges. In the fall of 1857, Polk City lodge was instituted, and was

represented at the session of the Grand Lodge in 1859, by Dr. (afterward Major) J. C. Bennett. Rev. William Remsburgh was delegate to the Grand Lodge from Des Moines lodge in 1858; and George E. Chambers and William H. Hoxie in 1859. Both Saylorville and Polk City lodges ceased working in 1858 or 1859. The sixth session of the Grand Lodge was held at Des Moines in 1859. About the same time, another lodge was organized in Des Moines, West side, known as Capital Lodge, No. 195. In 1860, Hon. Jonathan W. Cattell and Hon Elijah Sells, represented Des Moines Lodge in the Grand Lodge at Independence. Just before this time, Peoria City Lodge, No. 53, was started, and Polk City revived. The former was short lived.

In 1861, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cattell and Major Bennett represented the county in the Grand Lodge at Iowa City. In this year, (1861,) four new lodges were instituted in Polk county, viz: Mitchell, No. 250, at Mitchelltown; Elm Grove, No. 253, in Bloomfield township; Avon, No. 254; and Camp, No. 256, in Camp township; Saylorville was reorganized as No. 252. At the same time, the war drawing so heavily on its membership, Capital Lodge surrendered its charter.

The following year was one of great depression in the history of the order; and Polk City, Saylorville, and Elm Grove lodges, gave up their feeble hold on life. Of eight lodges reported by the Grand Secretary as organized during the year, one was in Des Moines, West side, where three lodges had previously gone down.

On the 7th day of May, 1862, Union lodge was instituted, as No. 263. Among its charter members were George A. McVicker, Thomas S. Keeney, M. S. Dickerson, Alonzo W. Rollins, and others. At the session of the Grand Lodge, held at Dubuque, Isaac Brandt and Mrs. Remsburg represented all the existing lodges in the county except Avon. Mr. Brandt was placed at the head of the order, and Mrs. Cattell, next.

On the 31st day of January, 1863, Avon lodge was suspended. On the 5th of August, in the same year, Fidelity lodge, No. 7, was instituted at Rising Sun, by Rev. William Remsburgh. The Grand Lodge met at Des Moines in September. Mr. and Mrs. Remsburgh, Hon. James Wright, and Mrs. Samuel Green, represented Des Moines lodge; Jonathan Blyler, Mitchell lodge; and John K. Lyon and Miss Mary Jones, Union lodge. Mr. Brandt was re elected Grand Worthy Chief Templar. At this session, a report was made of the number of members of the several lodges, who were in the army. Des Moines Lodge reported sixty-eight more than any other in the State, except one at Keokuk, which had seventy; Union lodge had ten.

In 1864, Camp lodge ceased to work. George A. McVicker, and Miss Anna Raling, represented the three lodges at the Grand Lodge, held at Mt. Pleasant. At this session, Samuel A. Ayres was commissioned Deputy Grand Worthy Chief Templar for Des Moines lodge; Thomas Mitchell, for Mitchell lodge; George A. McVicker, for Union; and A. J. Barton, for Fidelity, Rising Sun.

The following year was one of great activity in the temperance cause. On the 17th of February, 1865, Mr. Barton instituted Adelphi Lodge, 156, and on the 10th of March, Mud Creek Lodge, No. 159; and on the last day of the same month, Rev. Wm. M. Calfee organized a new lodge at Saylorville, Friendship, No. 167. Messrs. Brandt, McVicker, Ed. B. Stillman, Frank Mix, and Mrs. Cattell, represented the lodges of the county at Waterloo. The deputies appointed were Samuel Green, for Des Moines; Frank Mix, for Union; L. B. Houston, for Saylorville; and Mr. Mitchell was re-appointed.

On the 6th of March following, Peterson Lodge, No. 278, was organized in Delaware township; and on the 13th of April, Brandt Lodge, No. 295, was organized in Franklin Township. The same year witnessed the death of the two

new lodges of the previous year, Adelphi and Mud Creek. The lodges were represented at the session of the Grand Lodge, held at Newton, by Mrs. Cattell, Mrs. Remsburgh, Mrs. H. N. Hemenway, Mrs. W. E. Peterson, and Messrs. W. S. Peterson, J. M. Dixon, N. Ball, F. F. Blyler, T. E. Barlow, and J. A. Saylor. Rev. Wm. Remsburgh, of Des Moines Lodge; Jonathan Blyler, of Mitchell; A. J. Barton, of Fidelity, and Henry Owens, of Friendship, were respectively appointed deputies.

DES MOINES LODGE, I. O. G. T., NO. 133.

This Lodge was instituted in East Des Moines, January 29, 1857, by Hon. G. W. McCrary, with the following charter members: Samuel A. Ayres, J. C. Taylor, N. B. Cooley, Freeman Tisdale, J. H. Armstrong, William Riddle, Martha A. Cooley, Ann Tisdale, Rowena Foster, John Davis, Jos. C. Cooper, William Osborn, John B. Hardin, E. A. Snyder, E. E. Kimball.

The first officers were: J. C. Taylor, W. C. T.; Rowena Foster, W. V. T.; J. H. Armstrong, W. C.; N. B. Cooley, W. S.; W. Osborn, A. S.; F. Tisdale, W. F. S.; John Davis, W. F.; William Riddle, W. M.; E. E. Kimball, D. M.; John Hardin, I. G.; James Cooper, O. G.; Ann Tisdale, R. H. S.; and Nathan Cooley, L. H S.

The present officers are: P. B. Tolls, W. C. T.; Mary Miller, W. V. T.; Rev. Condo, W. C.; Samuel Henry, W. S.; Mrs. Samuel Henry, W. A. S.; Reese Gabriel, W. F S.; Mrs. Samuel Green, W. T.; Harry Lefler, W. M.; Miss Ella Johnson, D. W.; Miss Laura Overman, W. G.; Edward Hartzell, W. S.; Prof. A. Condo, Organist. Membership, 140.

This Lodge has been in constant working order ever since its organization. Martin D. McHenry, Jr., delivered the 19th annual address, in January last.

UNION LODGE.

Union Lodge, No. 263, I. O. G. T., was organized, May 7, 1862. The charter members were: Alonzo W. Rollins, M. S. Dickerson, D. D. Skinner, Ed. B. Stillman, George D. Ingersoll, Thomas S. Keeney, George A. Sells, George A. McVicker, W. H. M. Smith, W. A. Saylor, C. W. Rhoades, Mrs. C. E. Lanstrum, Mrs. Mary Smith, Mrs. Sue Rogg, Ed. C. Russell, Mrs. M. A. Peters, Mrs. R. Leyner, Mrs. Kate L. Turk, and Frank Mix.

The present officers are: Dr. Hinshaw, W. C. T.; Miss C. Compston, W. V. T.; J. D. Ogilvie, Sec.; Mrs. M. Gray Pitman, F. S.; Mrs. Oella McVicker, Treas.

EUREKA TEMPLE.

Eureka Degree Temple, No. 4, I. O. G. T., was organized October 18, 1858. The charter members were: Isaac Brandt, William Remsburgh, M. E. Remsburgh, Sarah A. Remsburgh, George O. Chambers, T. W. Gill, J. H. Looby, Isabella Francis, and Jennie Owens [Green.]

JOCELYN TEMPLE.

Jocelyn Temple of Honor, No. 5, was organized, March 16, 1870, in Des Moines, with the following charter members: Nathan W. Hunt, George A. McVicker, W. H. Fleming, David D. Fleming, John B. Miller, William E. W. Johnson, Isaac Brandt, S. M. Good, Charles G. Lewis, H. Monroe, Thomas Maloney, Wm. Duane Wilson, John W. Ealy, George H. Swan, Augustus Smith, George P. Mann, Henry Banks, William Mathews, Nathan E. Barnes, and Edward P. Parshall.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

A Division of the Sons of Temperance was organized, in Exchange Block, in the Winter of 1856–7. Among the

first officers were: Worthy Patriarch, Judge M. D. McHenry; Associate, J. M. Dixon.

The Patron of the Sons of Temperance, in Central Iowa, was Judge McHenry, who brought a clearance card, in 1856, from Golden Rule Division, No. 81, Shelbyville, Ky. The same name and number, "Golden Rule, No. 81," were given to the first Division in Des Moines. Judge McHenry was frequently consulted by Legislative committees, in reference to temperance legislation, and much that is good in our laws on this subject, is owing to the active interest he has taken, as well as his ability to give good counsel.

PEOPLE'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

This body was organized, October 12th, 1871, with seven members. The first officers were: President, G. H. Turner; Vice President, D. Donovan; Secretary, Seward Smith; Treasurer, James F. Kemp; Sergeant-at-Arms, W. A. Hunt. The Executive Committee were: G. H. Turner, E. J. McGorrisk, and S. B. Keffer. Book keeper, John R. Peed.

In November, 1871, the Association numbered 100 members.

POLK COUNTY GRANGES.

Capital Grange, No. 5, organized September 20, 1870. Charter officers, Isaac Brandt, Master; G. Sprague, Secretary. Present officers, A. R. Fulton, Master; Miss C. E. Raybourne, Secretary.

Bloomfield Grange, No. 15, organized February 1, 1871. Charter officers, M. L. Devin, Master; W. R. S. Clark, Secetary. Present officers, M. L. Devin, Master; E. Howell, Secretary.

Enterprise Grange, No. 16, organized February 5, 1871. Charter officers, A. S. Rice, Master; Isaac Case, Secretary. Present officers, Joseph R. Warwick, Master; W. F. Rice, Secretary.

Delaware Grange, No. 28, organized March 18, 1871. Charter officers, M. W. Miller, Master; A. E. Garrison, Secretary. Present officers, P. D. Ankeny, Master; N. F. Case, Secretary.

Walnut Grange, No. 56, organized July 1, 1871. Charter officers, H. S. Sovereign, Master; Nancy McDevitt, Secretary. Present officers, H. H. Robinson, Master; E. A. Tripp, Secretary.

Ridgedale Grange, No. 102, organized January 1, 1872. Charter officers, Walter Ogler, Master; Samuel D. Devery, Secretary. Present officers, John Lawson, Master; Wm. Andrews, Secretary.

Highland Grange, No. 130, organized January 20, 1872. Charter officers, M. McCall, Master; A. L. McWhorten, Secretary. Present officers, M. McCall, Master; A. P. Bodwell, Secretary.

Elkhart Grange, No. 199, organized February 21, 1872. Charter officers, H. J. Williamson, Master; J. M Johnston, Secretary. Disbanded.

Altoona Grange, No. 216, organized March, 1872. Charter offiers, R. P. Shivers, Master; N. Henstreet, Secretary. Disbanded.

Ashewa Grange, No. 243, organized March 11, 1872. Charter officers, Jno. Youngerman, Master; L. D. Whitmarsh, Secretary. Present officers, J. Fisher, Master; W. Osborne, Secretary.

White Oak Grange, No. 321, organized April 5, 1872. Charter officers, Joseph Landon, Master; J. H. Shackelford, Secretary. Present officers, J. H. Woods, Master; Thos. Woods, Secretary.

Camp Center Grange, No, 888, organized May 17, 1872. Charter officers, M. E. Town, Master; A. McKinney, Secretary. Present officers, J. D. Reese, Master; E. H. Brown, Secretary.

Douglass Grange, No. 457, organized June 26, 1872.

Charter officers, A. J. Mathis, Master; O. E. Doubleday, Secretary. Present officers, A. J. Mathis, Master; O. E. Doubleday, Secretary.

Independent Grange, No. 519, organized August 7, 1872. Charter officers, J. M. Walker, Master; H. J. McDonald, Secretary. Disbanded.

Crocker Grange, No. 663, organized November 7, 1872. Charter officers, R. K. Miller, Master; N. J. Harris, Secretary. Present officers, N. J. Harris, Master; G. W. Blackman, Secretary.

Polk Grange, No. 735, organized December 7, 1872. Charter officers, Wm. Frazier, Master; N. Frazier, Secretary. Present officers, Wm. A. Polk, Master; Wm. Hedge, Secretary.

Mitchelville Grange, No. 770, organized January 4, 1873. Charter officers, Wm. Grimstead, Master; Chas. Seiberling, Secretary. Present officers, J. W. Grimstead, Master; James L. Hibbs, Secretary.

Franklin Grange, No. 815, organized January 20, 1873. Charter officers, S. H. Walker, Master; B. F. Prunty, Secretary. Present officers, S. H. Walker, Master; B. F. Prunty, Secretary.

Four Mile Grange, No. 821, organized January 25, 1873. Charter officers, W. S. Mills, Master; W. S. Hawkins, Secretary. Present officers, James A. Dunagan, Master; W. L. Hawkins, Secretary.

Excelsior Grange, No. 795, organized January 18, 1873. Charter officers, Elmira Rothrock, Master; Wm. H. Dailey, Secretary. Present officers, David Burget, Master; Henry Heald, Secretary.

Grant Township Grange, No. 861, organized February 13, 1873. Charter officers, C. Thornton, Master; James Lamb, Secretary. Present officers, James Lamb, Master, C. Thornton, Secretary.

Salem Grange, No. 879, organized February 14, 1873.

Charter officers, M. F. Norris, Master; T. J. Cowman, Secretary. Disbanded.

Union Grange, No. 892, organized February 12, 1873. Charter officers, A. McCracken, Master; R. S. Turner, Secretary. Present officers, O. Miller, Master; J. S. Foster, Secretary.

Valley Grange, No. 1036, organized March 11, 1873. Hharter officers, E. L. Burnham, Master; W. H. Myers, Secretary. Present officers, J. Y. Horning, Master; Mrs. M. L. Corning, Secretary.

Economy Grange, No. 1147, organized March 21, 1873. Charter officers, J. D. Davis, Master; E. P. Corbit, Secretary. Disbanded.

Woodland Grange, No. 1234, organized March 25, 1872. Charter officers, J. K. Taylor, Master; F. Bunker, Secretary. Present officers, J. T. Grimstead, Master; William Mills, Secretary.

Highland Grange, No, 1297, organized April 5, 1872. Charter officers, W. B. Turner, Master; R. S. Turner, Secretary. Present officers, A. Turner, Jr., Master; Mrs. F. Turner, Secretary.

Harmony Grange, No. 1466, organized April 24, 1873. Present officers, W. P. Delong, Master; Martin Hoxie, Secretary.

Valley View Grange, No. 1473, organized May 3, 1873. Charter officers, C. Packet, Master; William Pine, Secretary. Disbanded.

Elm Grove Grange, No. 1474, organized May 3, 1873. Charter officers, P. M. Van Slack, Master; E. Blackman, Secretary. Present officers, H. C. Hargis, Master; E. Blackman, Secretary.

LIST OF CHARTER MEMBERS OF CAPITAL GRANGE.

G. Sprague, A. R. Fulton, Isaac Brandt, Samuel E. Rankin, Ed Wright, A. L. F. Mower, L. J. Brown, Wesley Red-

head, Samuel Merrill, John B. Miller, William Duane Wilson, James Bernard Wilson, Mrs. G. Sprague, Mrs. A. R. Fulton, Mrs. Isaac Brandt, Miss Allie Brandt, Mrs. Ed Wright, Mrs. A. L. F. Mower, Celia Wright, Mrs. Wesley Redhead, Mrs. Samuel Merrill, Mrs. John B. Miller, Miss A. L. Libby, Ella Campbell, Elizabeth E. Wilson.

COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

In May, 1858, a primary meeting of physicians was held in Des Moines, of which Henry Courtney, M. D., was Charman, Charles H. Rawson, M. D., Secretary. The object of the meeting was to adopt such measures as would facilitate the organization of a County Medical Society. The organization was accomplished May 26th, 1858, with the following officers: President, H. L. Whitman, M. D.; Vice-Presidents, J. O. Skinner, M. D., and J B. O. Lancton, M. D.; Recording Secretary, C. H. Rawson, M. D.; Corresponding Secretary, Henry Courtney, M. D.; Treasurer, A. J. Fox, M. D.; Censors, H. Courtney, W. P. Davis, and H. L. Whitman.

The present officers are: President, J. A. Blanchard, M. D.; Vice-Presidents, George F. Hubbard, M. D., and J. F. Kennedy, M. D.; Recording Secretary, I. Windle, M. D.; Corresponding Secretary, G. P. Hanawalt, M. D.; Treasurer, Henry Cox, M. D.; Censors, A. G. Field, M. D.; J. Bowman, M. D. and C. H. Rawson, M. D.

No early citizen of Des Moines is better remembered than Dr. Courtney, one of the first officers of the Society. He was a gentleman of pleasing and popular address, and an accomplished physician. His death, which occurred several years ago, was universally lamented. We have referred to Dr. W. P. Davis under another head. Dr. Lancton was a Canadian Frenchman ; his office was in a little frame building on Walnut street. He left Des Moines for the South before the war, since which time we have had no tidings in reference to him.

POLK CITY LODGES.

The Polk City Lodge, No. 300, I. O. O. F., was instituted, November 10th, 1874, by Grand Representative of G. L. U. S., W. W. Moore, of Des Moines. The charter members were: John McLean, William Garton, L. N. Clingman, Joseph Shrader, Daniel Ingersoll, N. R. Harrington, Alfred Holcraft, and C. F. Wright.

The first officers were: Alfred Holcraft, N. G.; John McLean, V. G.; R. N. Harrington, Secretary; N. L. Clingman, Treasurer; Daniel Ingersoll, W.; C. J. Clark, C.; C. F. Wright, O. G.; B. A. Little, I. G.; W. J. Wilson, R. S. to N. G.; George Drury, L. S. to N. G.; A. C. Truesdell, R. S. to V. G.; R. W. Stubbs, L. S. to V. G.

The present officers are: B. A. Little, N. G.; C. J. Clark, V. G.; W. J. Wilson, Recording Secretary; J. A. Kuntz, Secretary; William Garton, Treasurer; W. D. Ingersoll, Marshal; H. Eggleston, Conductor; Rev. J. R. Osborn, Chaplain; R. W. Stubbs and J. C. Lights, R. and L. Supporters to N. G.; H. Crabtree, O G.; H. B. Summerly, I. G.; H. Robinson and L. T. White, Sen. Supporters. Present number of members, 49.

The Masonic Lodge, at Polk City, of which we have a brief report from Col. C. J. Clark, was organized, October, 1871, with 11 members. It now numbers 58.

TOWN AND CITY.

ORIGINAL PLATS AND ADDITIONS.

Fort Des Moines, as originally platted, July 8, 1846, was bounded on the east by Water street, on the west by Eighth, on the north by Locust, and on the south by Elm. Scott and Dean's Addition to Fort Des Moines, East Side, was made Nov. 19, 1849; East Fort Des Moines plat, filed June 9th, 1854; Stewart's Addition to City of Des Moines, September 8th, 1857; H. Lyon's Addition to Town of Fort "Demoine," May 22d, 1856; Scott's Addition to Town of "Demoine," June 3d, 1856; Young's Addition, August 28th, 1856; Smith's Addition, September 1st, 1856; Holcomb's Addition, September 6th, 1856; Day's Addition, October 22d, 1856; West Fort Des Moines, west of original Town of Fort Des Moines, North of Fagan's Addition, April 10th, 1852; H. M. Hoxie's Addition to Town of Fort Des Moines, November 19th, 1856; Hall's Addition (West Side) February 18th, 1856; South Fort Des Moines, August 25th, 1855; Van's Addition to South Des Moines, May 22d, 1866; Bird's Addition, August 19th, 1857; Grimmel's Addition June 7th, 1857; Lyon's Addition, December 3d, 1858; Sevastopol, Bloomfield Township, May 5th, 1862; Mumma and Jacob's Hydraulic Addition to Fort Des Moines, August 27th, 1855; Town of "Demoine," January 30th, 1856; and Cottage Grove Addition to City, May 3d, 1873.

CEMETERIES.

We have followed up the plats and Additions to the Town and City as far as the requirements of history demand, and as far as our space would permit. We append here a brief history of the different Cemeteries of belonging to the city and organizations: Woodland Cemetery, embracing forty acres, was laid out November 1st, 1859; Odd Fellows', within the limits of Woodland, March 30th, 1858; Jewish, or Emanuel Cemetery, just outside of Woodland, two acres, January 21st, 1871. The Association laying it out was incorporated July 22d, 1870, and the deed to land dated August 6th, 1870. The first Catholic Cemetery, embracing ten acres, the deed of which was made to Father Loras, first Bishop of Iowa, was laid out two and a half miles South of the City, February 1st, 1858; it was abandoned about ten years ago. The present Catholic Cemetery, purchased through Father Brazil, and deeded to him, embracing twelve acres, just outside of Woodland, was laid out July 23d, 1866. The bodies in the old burial place were exhumed, and taken to the new one.

FORT DES MOINES.

The original plat of Fort Des Moines was made under the direction of Benj. Saylor and Wm. H. Meacham, County Commissioners, July 8th, 1846. The Town was located on the West bank of the Des Moines river. Several years later, the Town of "Demoine" was laid out on the East side of the river. The reader will notice that the name Des Moines, as used by many of our early settlers, was spelled "Demoine." From the best authority, the river Des Moines means the river of the monks, resulting, manifestly, from the fact that the agents of the Catholic Church had much to do in the realm of discovery, and in the establishment of missions on the lower Des Moines.

In the Summer of 1846, several lots in Fort Des Moines, which are now immensely valuable, sold for prices ranging from eighteen to thirty-five dollars! In another place we have described the contest which resulted, in 1846, in the permanent location of the County Seat at the Fort.

On the 22d day of September, 1851, an election occurred in Fort Des Moines, on the question of incorporating the town. In favor of incorporation forty-two votes were cast, and against, but one.

Notice of this election was given, September 6th, 1851, at which time C. C. Van, and Thomas McMullen were appointed Judges, and L. P. Sherman, Clerk, of election. Another election was held, September 27th, 1851, at which the following gentlemen were selected to draft a charter for the town: P. M. Casady, L P. Sherman, and Rev. Thompson Bird. The vote stood as follows: Byron Rice received 5 ballots; R. W. Sypher, 4; C. Bates, 4; C. C. Van, 2; J. E. Jewett, 2; P. M. Casady, 16; L. P. Sherman, 9; and Rev. T. Bird, 6.

October 11th, 1851, the committee so elected made their report, at the same time designating three different boundaries for said incorporation. On the same day, it was ordered that an election be held, October 18th, 1851, to decide which of the three boundaries suggested should be selected, and also to vote for or against the charter, as reported by said Commissioners. Of this last election, C. C. Van, W. T. Marvin, and J. M. Griffiths were appointed Judges, and Byron Rice and L. P. Sherman were chosen Clerks. The charter was adopted by a vote of 25 for, and none against.

October 26th, 1851, the first Town Council, consisting of Hoyt Sherman, P. M. Casady, L. P. Sherman, C. D. Reinking, R. W. Sypher, and Jesse S. Dicks, met at the old Court House, and organized by the election of Thompson Bird, President, and Charles McKay, Recorder. The

term for which they were elected, was one year. In October, 1852, John W. Jones was chosen President.

The Legislature, during the January session of 1853, passed the act of incorporation. Meantime, that portion of the town now called East Des Moines, was growing in popular favor, and many men of sterling enterprise labored to expand and beautify that part of the embryo city. In time, those appalling vacancies on both sides of the river, which occurred so frequently between buildings, giving us the title of "the City of Magnificent Distances," were filled, in a great measure, with costly structures of approved architecture, crowded, from roof to basement, with the evidences of prosperous business.

CITY OF DES MOINES.

The Legislature, which convened in the Winter of 1856 and '57, incorporated the two towns of Demoine, on the east side of the Des Moines river, and Fort Des Moines, as a city. The prefix, "Fort," was discontinued.

The city extends four miles from East to West, and two miles from North to South, embracing eight square miles. It is divided into seven Wards, four of which are on the West side of the Des Moines river, and three on the East side. South Des Moines is that part of the city lying South of the Raccoon river.

The Census, taken in April, 1857, gave to the city a population of less than 3,000. In 1863, we had increased to 4,500; in 1867, to 10,296; showing a lively increase, in four years, of about 4,700. In 1869, we had 12,180; in 1873, we numbered 15,061; in 1875, it was 16,130, and in 1876, our population may be placed, in round numbers, at 20,000

In another place we have reported, in order, our pioneer improvements, dating back to the building of military quarters, in 1843. Of the brick buildings erected between 1854 and 1856, Exchange and Sherman Blocks, and Iowa

Central College, on the West Side, and Griffiths' Block and the old Capitol, on the East Side, are the most prominent. Sherman Block was built by Hoyt Sherman, R. L. Tidrick, and P. M. Casady. Savery Block, corner of Walnut and Fourth streets, was commenced in 1856, but two or three years passed away before it was completed.

Originally, the great thoroughfare of Fort Des Moines was all that part of Second street, West Side, which lies between Elm and Walnut. For a long time the buildings were exclusively frame, maintaining this character until G. M. Hippee built on the corner of Court Avenue and Second, and Hoyt Sherman on the opposite side of the latter street. Finally, however, Second street began to lose its ancient prestige, as a commercial center, and Granville Holland, Harry Stephenson, G. M. Hippee, John McWilliams, C. Corning & Bro., the Lairds, B. F. Allen, H. M. and L. H. Bush, and many others who have been mentioned hitherto, began to make Court Avenue, Third, and Walnut streets, resound with the hum of business.

Among the business men who vacated Second street for other parts of the town, were W. W. Moore, who kept the old Hoosier Store, and G. W. and A. J. Dunkle, who came here in 1855, and established the old Buckeye Store. The latter gentlemen bought out W. D. Trowbridge. The Hoosier Store occupied the site of W. R. Stewart & Sons' Wholesale Glassware establishment. The building before which the sign of the Buckeye Store was once conspicuous, is now used as a blacksmith shop.

The Mound property, near the corner of Fourth and Walnut streets, was bought by W. W. Moore, for $650. Some years before this purchase, that is, in 1848, J. D. Davis, a brother of Hon. W. P. Davis, deceased, erected a residence, afterward occupied by Mr. Moore.

The first Aldermen elected under the city organization which occurred in 1857, were: W. A. Hunt, J. F. Kemp,

F. R. West, Lovell White, Isaac Cooper, W. C. Burton, R. L. Tidrick, M. Lawrence, J. W. Stanton, G. W. Conner, H. H. Griffiths, J. A. Williamson, W. A. Scott, and John Hyde.

Of the fourteen Aldermen elected, ten were democrats, and four were republicans.

The present Aldermen are: 1st Ward, M. Drady, Michael McTigh; 2d Ward, H. B. Hatch, W. H. McHenry; 3d Ward, George Sneer, T. T. Morris; 4th Ward, S. M. Nelson, H. S. Skinner; 5th Ward, Archie Christy, Duane Devotie; 6th Ward, M. H. King, J. C. Painter; 7th Ward, Daniel Rees, Marcus Kavanagh. M. H. King, President *pro tem.*

Present City officers are: Mayor, Giles H. Turner; Auditor, Taylor Pierce; Treasurer, George M. Walker; Solicitor, Seward Smith; Police Judge, G. B. Hammer; Clerk of Police Court, M. W. Sauerbrunn; Street Commissioner, George Githens; Market Master, Philip Nau.

The present Police force is, Marshal, George Christ; Assistant Marshal, T. J. Hoopes; Chief of Police, Colonel F. Olmstead; 1st Ward, Hugh Brennen; 2d Ward, Charles Shafer; 3d Ward, Daniel Stickles; 5th Ward, Albert Jarvis; 6th Ward, W. C. Smith; 7th Ward, Anderson Bryan.

MAYORALTY.

In October, 1853, Benjamin Luce was elected mayor under the first charter.

On the first Monday of November, 1854, Barlow Granger and Samuel Noel were rival candidates for mayor, the former being chosen by a majority of one. November 5, 1855, William Deford was elected mayor. Charles W. Nash was chosen to the office in 1856; and the records show that he served until the extinction of the old charter in 1857.

In April, 1857, the city charter of Des Moines, went into practical operation, by the election of W. H. McHenry to the Mayoralty. Mr. McHenry was succeeded by H. E. Lemoreaux in 1858; R. L. Tidrick was mayor in 1859; P. W. Latshaw in 1860; Ira Cook in 1861; Thomas Kavanaugh in 1862; William H. Leas in 1863, and in 1864; George W. Cleveland in 1865–6, and again in 1867; Sumner F. Spofford in 1862; J. H. Hatch in 1869–70; Martin Tuttle in 1871; J. P. Foster in 1872; Giles H. Turner in 1873.

In March, 1873, Des Moines was advanced to a city of the first class. Prior to this time, our chief magistrates were chosed for one year; afterward, however, they were elected for two years.

In March, 1874, A. Newton was chosen mayor; and in March, 1876, Giles H. Turner was elected again to the office.

From the commencement of our municipal history in 1851, until the present time, 1876, we have had two Presidents and four Mayors under the old town organization, and fourteen different Mayors under the city charter, the last two of whom were chosen after the city took rank as first class.

CITY OFFICERS.

From the inauguration of the Town Charter, Des Moines has had the following Treasurers: Benjamin Bryant, L. P. Sherman, M. S. Dickerson, J. N. Dewey, R. K. McMaster, J. E. Hull, T. E. Settle, Thomas Hatton, Jr., George A. McVicker, Wm. Lowry, and G. M. Walker.

There were two Town Marshals, viz: John Youngerman, and John Harter. We have had fourteen City Marshals. viz: William Deford, 1857; J. T. Moore, 1858; Robert Hedge, 1859; Lewis Jones, 1860; John Watson, 1861; A. N. Marsh, 1862; Samuel Noel served three years; S. H. Carson, elected in 1866, and served three years; F. M. Smith, elected in 1869, resigned during the year, and S. H. Carson filled out the unexpired term; S. H. Carson, 1870; M. T. Russell, served two years; W. M. Patchen, 1873; Adam Hafner, served two years; John S. Davis, died one month after his election in 1876, and was succeeded by George Christ, the present incumbent.

The following Recorders have served during the same time: B. D. Thomas, Warren Curtis, M. H. King, John Jack, Jr., John K. Lyon, J. C. Benedict, M. H. King, George Sneer, J. W. Cattell, and Taylor Pierce.

We have had the following solicitors: C. C. Cole, G. H. Turner, S. Sibley, Seward Smith, W. H. McHenry, C. P. Holmes, and Seward Smith. The Police Judges have been, L. A. Crane, and G. B. Hammer.

The Street Commissioners for the West Side have been, John McNamara, T. E. Mitchell, J. C. Bailey, G. Washburn, W. Milligan, S. Farr, B. T. Jones, W. C. Burton, J. J. Fox, and Silas McGready. For the East Side for the same time, William Tomlinson, G W. Comer, Isaac Whicher, C. Stutsman, A. Murray, D. Rees, G. C. Jeffries, A. L. F. Mower.

Since 1871, the city has had the following Street Commissioners: George Sneer, A. L. F. Mower, Evan Rees, and George Githens.

The City Engineers have been, B. Callan, J. C. Booth, D A. Poorman, J. B. Bausman, and Frank Pelton.

The City Assesssors have been, J. Hyde, A. J. Taylor, John McNamara, Duane Devotie, Dan Ellyson, G. M. Walker, William Matthews, Harry Rich, and George F. Walker.

DES MOINES POSTMASTERS.

The original name of the office was Raccoon River, and the first duly commissioned Postmaster was Joseph Smart, Indian Interpreter, who received his appointment in April, 1846. Declining to serve, T. K. Brooks, with Messrs. Church and Newcomer on his bond, filled the place as the first regular postmaster. The office was kept at the time at the old Agency. The mail was brought on horseback.

P. M. Casady was appointed postmaster in January, 1847, at which time the name of the office was changed from Raccoon River to Fort Des Moines. R. L. Tidrick, entered on the duties of the office January 1, 1849. He was succeeded by Hoyt Sherman, in the Spring of 1849, appointed by President Taylor.

In 1853, at the time when president Pierce came into power, Wesley Redhead was appointed postmaster. He served until the accession of President Lincoln in 1861, when John Teesdale came to the office. Mr. Teesdale was followed by George C Tichenor, May 16, 1867, after whom came J. S. Clarkson, September 1, 1871, the present postmaster.

A few years since, the office was removed from the building it occupied on Third street, to the fine and costly Federal structure on the corner of Fifth and Court Avenue, the building of which commenced in 1867. The immense busi-

ness which is now done in this office—greater than that of any other office in the State—contrasts strangely, as well as strongly, with those primitive times when Mr. Casady carried the entire mail matter of the town in his hat and pockets.

A. L. F. Mower was, until recently, the Deputy Postmaster in East Des Moines. He came here in 1856, and died a few weeks since in California. He was succeeded by L. H. Mower.

The city mail carriers who commenced service July 24, 1873, are Number 1, James B. Olmsted; 2, William Hoppe; 3, Archie Christy; 4, John A. King; 5, Barton H. Dear; 6, Warren Walker; and 7, Frank Daugherty.

John Beckwith, the present Assistant Postmaster, has been connected with the office during the past twelve years.

To show the rapid increase of business in the Des Moines postoffice, we give the following aggregates, as furnished by Mr. Beckwith: Total amount of money orders issued during the first six months of 1870, $24,284.07; fees received for same, $186.15. For the first six months of 1876, $41,944.76; fees on same, $396.15. The amount of money orders paid during the first six months of 1870, is, $37,096.61; the amount for the same time in 1876, is $146,838.46.

The respective amounts of mail matter delivered and collected by the city carriers, for the third quarters of 1874, and 1876, are as follows: Delivered during the third quarter of 1874, 108,427 letters, 16,970 postal cards, and 72,566 papers; collected during the same period, 70,213 letters, 9,434 postal cards, and 8,809 papers. During the third quarter of 1876, there was delivered, 146,825 letters, 43,279 postal cards, 81,566 papers; collected during the same period, 84, 717 letters, 21,680 postal cards, and 8,300 papers.

STAGE COMPANIES.

In September, 1849, Fink & Walker established lines of stages from Fort Des Moines to Keokuk and Iowa City; and during the same year Chiles & Hall ran a hack from the Fort to Kanesville, or Council Bluffs. These companies gave the public on these routes, all the facilities of travel which were enjoyed, before the Western Stage Company was introduced into Iowa.

WESTERN STAGE COMPANY.

No history of Polk county would be complete, without special mention of this great corporation, the Western Stage Company, which wielded such a commanding influence among us in ante railroad times. Among the prominent partners in this company, were: E. S. Alvord, of Indianopolis, President; Kimball Porter, of Iowa City; Messrs. Shoemaker, W. H. Sullivan, D. Tallmadge, and Campbell, of Ohio, and Colonel E. F. Hooker, of this city.

The headquarters of this Company were established at the old Everett House in Fort Des Moines, July 1, 1854. The House was at that time kept by A. Morris. The General Superintendent of the Stage lines was Colonel E. F. Hooker, whose residence and business office were located on the site, or nearly so, of the large furniture establishment of Harbach Brothers, on Third street. The first office agent was a Mr. Smith. One of the early agents was W. H. McChesney, who died at Colonel Hooker's old residence May, 1858.

Another agent in those early times, was W. P. Cooper, who was succeeded in April, 1858, by A. T. Johnson. This latter gentleman, so extensively and favorably known to our citizens, remained as agent until the corporation ceased to exist, July, 1870. George McGuire, who died in August, 1864, was prominently known as one of the representatives of the Company. The Secretaries who resided in Des Moines were: E. B. Alvord, T. R. Fletcher, E. W. Sparhawk and E. G. Sears. Of these, E. B. Alvord, and E. W. Sparhawk are dead.

A. B. Woodbury was Superintendent of the Company's shops, which were located, along with the barn, on the corner of Eighth and Vine streets, where Getchell's lumber yard is now situated. The shops were divided into departments, in one of which the wood work was executed; in another, the painting; in another horse-shoing, and in others, harness-making, and blacksmithing for ironing coaches. From these varied operations, the reader will form some conception of the magnitude of the business carried on by this great organization.

Col. Hooker retired from the Superintendency in 1866, and was succeeded by R. Lounsberry, who was the last one filling this office. H. B. Alvord settled up the affairs of the corporation at its close, with great profit to the Company. To give some idea of the business accomplished, it is proper to state in this connection, that the receipts for one year alone, on the line between Des Moines and Boone, reached the large sum of $100,000. But after the Rock Island Railroad was completed to Council Bluffs, the Boone line fell into insignificance, and the days of the Western Stage Company, so far as Iowa is concerned, were numbered.

The stages of this corporation transported to Davenport, with all their personal equipments, the members of the 23d and 39th Iowa Infantry, requiring just two days to take an

entire regiment. In this way, parts of the 2d, 4th, 10th, and 15th regiments, were taken to their rendezvous. On the day after the adjournment, in old times, the members of the Legislature, living abroad, were either at their homes, or were far on their way to their destination. The morning after the great Republican State Convention in 1864, hardly a delegate to that body, except those who lived here, could be found in the city. Mr. Johnson had sent them off during the previous night in a regiment of coaches.

The last coach belonging to the Company in Des Moines, was sold for $30 to James Stephenson, of Omaha, in 1874. Mr. Johnson rode on the driver's seat from the stage barn to the freight depot of the R. I. R. R., and as he left the old vehicle to take its journey westward on the cars, he bade it an affectionate farewell. Many of the old employes of the Western Stage Company, are yet living in the county. The Company's farm on Mud Creek, in the eastern part of the county, comprising at one time 600 acres, has gone into the hands of other owners, and nothing is left to us of the rich old corporation, but the stirring memories with which its name is associated.

OMNIBUS LINE.

After the railroads had been completed to Des Moines, the Western Stage Company established an omnibus line in the city, which was operated by them until July, 1868, when A. T. Johnson & Son bought their interest. Since that time, these gentlemen have had almost exclusive control of this business. Two or three months since, they purchased three fine omnibuses, thereby accommodating themselves to the increasing capacity and demands of the city.

EXPRESS COMPANY.

The first Express in the County was an individual enterprise, operated by a Mr. Parker, commencing in 1855. The

first regular agent at Fort Des Moines was Harry Clark. In 1858, the U. S. Express Company bought out Parker's Express, and R. K. McMasters was appointed agent in the City, and so continued till July, 1863, when W. H. Quick was appointed to take his place. At that time, J. Shepard, now General Western Superintendent at Chicago, was Division Superintendent.

In 1865, Mr. Quick was appointed Division Superintendent of the Iowa and Nebraska Division, and E. L. Smith succeeded to the place of Mr. Q Mr. Smith is still agent here, having the honor of being the oldest continuous agent of the Company in the State.

Like all other business enterprises, the U. S. Express Company had a small and unpretentious beginning, requiring the work of but one man to serve its limited interests; but now, since the old Western Stage Company has been superseded by our grand railroad system, the Express Agency here has grown to very large proportions, requiring the constant services of eight men and three teams to transmit packages from the depots to their local destination, and transact other business connected with the office. In early times, when the facilities for transportation were confined to horses and vehicles, Skunk river, and especially Skunk Bottom, as it was classically called, was a constant terror to the Express Company. The packages consigned to their care were frequently hindered in transit by the delays and obstructions caused by this historic bottom; and although the greatest care and precaution were taken to prevent hinderances and accidents, they did not prevent the local Agent and Messenger from feeling great solicitude on this account.

It is worthy of remark here, that in the amount of expressage during the past ten years, Iowa has presented a more rapid increase than any other State in the Union. This certainly speaks well for the business energy of our people.

HOTELS.

Martin X Tucker—the X having been suggested by the fact that he always wrote his signature with that accommodating capital—kept a public house in one of the garrison buildings in 1846. His education was quite deficient, as upon one occasion, while speaking of some contemplated repairs in his hotel, he declared he intended to "run an avenue through it, and having put up a condition, he would be able to detain the traveling public in a more hostile manner."

Part of the old Collins House, on Market street, was originally occupied as a blacksmith shop, by S. L. Fuller. In time Mr. Tucker took possession of this property, and fitted it up for a hotel. He sold it to Mrs. Brechbill, who changed the name to Astor House. For many years, it was recognized as one of our principal public houses. Samuel Noel and Mr. Collins were among the landlords. The old hotel on Third street, near Walnut, West Side, was first kept by B. T. Hoxie, who was succeeded by Henry Everly. In the Spring of 1853, this house was purchased and occupied by J. C. Savery. The log part of this building had belonged to the barracks, and the additions to it were made by Marvin and Luse, in 1852–3. The hotel and furnishings, and two lots, 132 feet square, were bought by Mr. Savery for $5,000, the lots being valued at $1,000. This hotel, known amid its changes as the Everett and Blodgett House, City Hotel, and other names, was demolished not long since, to give place to a more stately and imposing edifice, after having served the purpose of its creation nearly thirty years.

The Shamrock House, on Second street, kept by Michæl McTighe, has been in existence about twenty years. The landlord, Michæl McTighe, one of the Aldermen from the First Ward, has served more years in the City Council than any other member of that body. He came to Fort Des

Moines, September 7th, 1854; and was the first native of Ireland to settle in town. Major Thomas Cavanaugh, also from Ireland, who was Mayor of the City in 1862, took up his residence here not long after Mr. McTighe.

The most important public house in the Town twenty years ago, was the "Demoine House," the owner of which for a long time has been S. F. Spofford. It is now kept by J. Gump & Son. Among old hotels on the West Side, were the American House, on Second street; the Buckeye House, on corner of Market and Third; and the Cottage House, since called Avenue, on Court Avenue. The Cooley House, established by N. B. Cooley, and now called the Loper House, in East Des Moines, was a place of entertainment in early times. In the same part of the Town, were the Grout, Walker, and Slatten Houses.

The first public house, however, in what is now East Des Moines, was kept in a log cabin, near the site of Shepard & Perrior's mills. It was called Meachem's Tavern; and it was cotemporary with Tucker's first hotel in Fort Des Moines.

In 1866, work on the Savery Block was commenced; and a few years later, one of the grandest hotels in the West was opened in it. Subsequently, through the money and enterprise of Dr. Aborn, the Aborn House, with its splendid appointments and commanding position, added new dignity to the Capital City. Meantime, the Pacific, now the fine Morgan House, kept by Mrs. Long; the Given, Monitor, and Fanning Houses, and City Hotel, began to grace the town; while on the East Side, the Capital, Groves, Banner, Pennsylvania, and Jones Houses, displayed their inviting attractions to the public. The Jones House is a large and well appointed hotel, whose gentlemanly proprietor, G. W. Jones, is a solid and influential citizen.

In South Des Moines, the Indiana and South Des Moines Houses have grown up; and finally, the Spofford House, on

Walnut street, which is destined to take the place of the old Demoine House, will be the most magnificent edifice of the kind in the State. It will be owned and controlled by a stock company, of which Col. S. F. Spofford is President; P. M. Casady, Treasurer; R. G. Orwig, Secretary; Dr. H. L. Whitman, Joseph A. Ankeny, and F. L. Downing, Directors. This immense building will be 132 feet square, and five stories high, above the basement, with Mansard roof and towers, and with 262 rooms. The dining room and rotunda will have marble floors, and the ceiling will be 24 feet high. There will be an open court in the center, 44 feet square, with a fountain in the midst, and decorating flowers. Forty rooms will have bath attachments, and the whole edifice, from basement to tower, will be constructed on the most refined and elaborate plan, suggested by the best approved systems of modern architecture. The entire cost of finishing and furnishing this massive structure, will reach $200,000. William Foster is the architect. Work has already been commenced on the foundation.

We understand that the Spofford House Company have recently purchased the Jones House, in East Des Moines.

GAS COMPANIES.

The first Gas Company of the city, represented by James M. Starr, of Richmond, Indiana, was organized in April, 1864. His contract with the city stipulated that on or before the first day of September, 1865, he was to complete the apparatus for making gas, and lay down one mile of main pipe in the principal streets of the city. The privileges granted to this Company were to extend over a period of fifteen years.

he Capital City Gas Light Company was organized September, 1875, and received their charter from the city, March 20th, 1876. They have almost completed their works, having put in ten miles of mains. An unfortunate contro-

versy sprang up between this Company and the old one, which has been pending several years. This controversy precipitated a lawsuit, in which C. C. Cole and Bissell & Crane were attorneys for the old Company; Seward Smith, City Solicitor, for the new, and C. P. Holmes, Smith & Baylies, and McHenry & Bowen for the city. This suit terminated by a Supreme Court decision, in favor of the right of the city to grant a charter to the new Company.

The officers of the Capital City Company are: F. F. Marsh, President; W. S. Agard, Secretary; William Sumner, Treasurer.

On the evening of November 23d, 1876, lamps of the new Company were first lighted. The city has about 1000 street lamps, giving us the best lighted city in the State.

DES MOINES WATER WORKS.

The first effort to supply the city with a system of Water Works, was made in 1868. A Company was organized at that time, to whom the city granted a charter, and with whom it made a specific contract. G. W. Clark had the executive management of the enterprise. This Company, however, forfeited its contract, and the work was abandoned. We are indebted to Fred. M. Hubbell, of this city, for the following clear and satisfactory history of the present

DES MOINES WATER COMPANY.

The Des Moines Water Company was organized, April 3, 1871, by the following gentlemen: B. F. Allen, J. C. Savery, William Braden, J. M. Tuttle, Hoyt Sherman, P. M. Casady, J. S. Polk, George Whitaker, John A. Elliott, and F. M. Hubbell, who adopted Articles of Incorporation

The corporate directors were: B. F. Allen, William Braden, J. M. Tuttle, P. M. Casady, and J. S. Polk, who were

instructed to procure the necessary charter, granting to said Company the right to erect, maintain, and operate Water Works in the city of Des Moines.

The capital stock of the Company was fixed at $150,000; but was afterwards increased to $300,000. B. F. Allen was elected President and Treasurer, and J. S. Polk, Secretary. The Executive Committee were: B. F. Allen, J. S. Polk, and William Braden.

The charter was passed by the City Council, May 2, 1871; and the erection of the works was immediately begun. The Company had ten miles of mains laid by November, 1872. The buildings were erected in the year 1871, upon Block 49, of J. Lyon's addition to Des Moines.

The total number of miles of mains is now 15, ten miles of which are on the West, and five on the East Side.

Number of consumers on West Side, 400; number on East Side, 156. Engine, 300-horse power. Two tubular boilers, one of which is horizontal. Number of gallons pumped daily, 800,000. They supply all the railroads in the city, to-wit: Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, Keokuk & Des Moines, Des Moines & Fort Dodge, and Des Moines & Minnesota. They supply, East Side: Eagle Iron Works, McDonnell & Meara (boiler makers), Shepard & Perrior (grist mill), Williams & Brothers (grist mill), Ankeny Brothers (oil mill), Capital City Gas Light Company, Engines at the Capitol, and the *Plain Talk* newspaper. Steam engines on West Side furnished with water, are as follows: *Register*, *Leader*, and *Journal* offices, Mills & Company, Carter, Hussey, & Curl, Skinner Brothers, J. H. Given & Co., Dan. Tyrrell's grist mill, Brooks, Wilson & Stein, Platt & Spieth, Des Moines Gas Works, H. M. Bush's warehouse, and a large number of business houses and private families.

The officers of the Company for the present year are: J. S. Polk, F. M. Hubbell, S. Van Cleve, George H. Maish,

and Joseph Deming, Directors; J. S. Polk, President; F. M. Hubbell, Secretary; George H. Maish, Treasurer: S. Van Cleve, Superintendent.

Total cost of the Works, June 1st, 1876, $273,873.81.

RAILROAD OFFICERS.

Of the Keokuk & Des Moines Railroad, H. O. Whiting is the Western Agent, and H. Coykendall the Agent for Des Moines. Of the Des Moines & Fort Dodge Railroad, C. W. Gilmore is Superintendent; G. W. Oglevie, General Freight and Ticket Agent; H. Coykendall, Local Freight and Ticket Agent; E. Weston, Passenger Conductor; Thos. Hoke, Train Dispatcher; M. D, Ridle, Agent at Ashawa; G. H. Corse, Agent at Altoona; and W. Hannold, at Nobleton, or Mitchellville.

Of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad, the resident officers are: H. F. Royce, Division Superintendent; C. D. Sprague, Freight and Ticket Agent; Giles H. Williams, Train Dispatcher; J. H. Preston, Road Master; C. S. Binkley, Foreman Engine House; J. B. Davis, Foreman Car Shop; C. A. King, Agent at Mitchellville; R. C. Lain, at Altoona; George S. Kinsman, at Commerce; and J. D. McGlothen, at Avon. The resident Conductors of this road are: William A. Ackley, Fred Bliss, William A. Smith, R. Patch, Passenger Conductors. Andy Swivel, H. Sheldon, R. J. Scott, Accommodation. G. N. Black. G. W. Buel, L. W. Scripture, C. J. White, C. M. Hunt, O. L. Pennell, and Thomas Egan, Freight Conductors.

Of the Des Moines & Minnesota Railroad, James Callanan is President; J. J. Smart, Vice-President and General Superintendent; Charles H. Getchell, Treasurer; and J. B. Stewart, Secretary. The Agents are: B. A. Little, Des Moines; Eli Thornton, Ankeny; B. A. Little, Polk City; W. B. Miller, Sheldahl. The Agents outside of Polk County are: M. C. Stevens, at Kelley; and C. K. Skinner, at Ames.

The Master Mechanic, Des Moines, is Thomas Hurley; the Conductors are: F. C. Hurley and Oliver Ledrow; the Engineers are: Thomas Hurley, O. R. Witty, and Chas. Hotchkiss; the Road Master is C. P. Whitmore.

The first railroad car manufactured in the county, was made in Des Moines by this Company. Its title is No. 7.

DES MOINES BANKS.

B. F. Allen commenced banking in 1855, and continued in the business till 1875. F. R. West was the first President of the Des Moines branch of the State Bank of Iowa, which commenced business January 1st, 1859, with Hoyt Sherman as Cashier. This Bank was organized as the National State Bank, May 1st, 1865, and so continued as such until May, 1876, when it was succeeded by F. R. West & Sons' State Bank of Iowa. Of bankers, Captain West has continued longer in the business than any of his cotemporaries in Des Moines.

The Capital City Bank, of which B. F. Allen was President, and A. L. West was Cashier, was organized November 1st, 1869, and was sold to H. C. Sigler and William Christy, July 1st, 1876.

The Iowa National Bank, of which H. K. Love is President, and George H. Maish, Cashier, was established November 1st, 1875. Capital stock, $100,000.

The Citizens Bank, of which Governor Samuel Merrill was President; John A. Elliott, Vice-President, and John W. Ulm, Cashier, was organized November, 1871, with a capital of $100,000. It was changed to the Citizens' National Bank, with the same officers, May 15th, 1872. The present officers are: President, Samuel Merrill; Vice-President, J. H. Merrill; Cashier, J. G. Rounds. Present capital, $150,000. Surplus fund, $50,000.

The Valley Bank was established January 6, 1873, by G. M. Hippee and J. J. Towne, with a capital of $50,000. Sub-

sequently, T. H. Delamater, of Meadsville, Pa., and O. Noble, of Erie, Pa., were admitted into the firm. The capital stock was increased to $100,000. G. M. Hippee is President, and J. J. Towne, Cashier.

The Des Moines Bank was established July 26th, 1875, by P. M. Casady, C. H. Gatch, E. S. Gatch, and Simon Casady. These gentlemen recently erected for their business, on Third street, an elegant stone front building. The Valley Bank has also a new and fine building for its business.

The banking house of I. N. Thomas, was established October 9th, 1873.

The First National Bank of Des Moines, was established in 1864, with J. B. Stewart, as President, and Charles Mosher as Cashier. Capital stock was $50,000; increased afterwards to $150,000. This Bank was also a Government Depository.

The Second National Bank was organized about the same time, with a capital of $50,000. G. M. Hippee, was President, and Geo. W. Jones, Cashier.

A. J. Stevens established a bank in 1853, and was succeeded by Callanan & Ingham, in 1857. The latter firm retired from the business in 1862.

Cook, Sargent & Cook, commenced banking in Des Moines in 1855, and continued till 1858. Ira Cook, still of this city, was the resident banker.

Maclot, Corban & White, commenced banking in 1855. They were succeeded by White & Smith in 1857.

Green, Weare & Rice established a bank in 1855, and continhed it till 1858.

Scott & Williamson were engaged in banking in East Des Moines, during the years of 1857–8.

Hoyt Sherman & Co. established a bank in 1854. It was succeeded by the State Bank in 1858.

J. W. Ulm commenced the business in 1868, and in 1869

he was succeeded by Coskery & Ulm. They were succeeded by the Citizens' Bank, to which we have elsewhere referred.

STREET RAILROAD.

On the first day of October, 1866, the Des Moines Street Railroad Company was organized, and constituted as follows: President, Dr. M. P. Turner; Vice-President, J. S. Polk; Superintendent, U. B. White; Secretary, F. M. Hubble. The following December, 1866, the Company obtained their charter from the city, and a year thereafter the cars were running on Court Avenue from Fifth street West side, to the foot of Capitol Hill.

In time, the track was laid on Walnut street; and at the present time there are 2¼ miles of railway completed. Much work has been done this year to extend the road; and we are informed by the President, Dr. Turner, that he designs at an early day to push his cars North to the city limits, and West to Woodland Cemetery. With these improvements in contemplation, he has already ordered a large supply of railroad iron.

For the present need of the road there are three cars running, ten horses in daily use.

We omitted to state in the proper place, that the second mile of this railway, running on Walnut and other streets, was completed in November, 1872.

Since writing the obove a new car has made its appearance on the streets, exciting much admiration. Its cost was $1,200; and without undertaking a description here, it must suffice to state that this car, and the others which will soon follow, will be a source of pride and pleasure, as well as personal convenience, to visitors and citizens. The new car runs to Seventh and Locust streets, in the vicinity of several churches.

TELEGRAPHS.

The Western Union Telegraph was completed to Des Moines in 1861. The agents in Des Moines, are: A. B. Gunn, Manager; J. M. Smith, and Burt Rowe, Operators.

The Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Company, established an office in Des Moines, September, 1874, with A. H. Herrick, as Operator.

STATE OFFICERS.

Samuel J. Kirkwood, Governor; William H. Fleming, Governor's Private Secretary; Josiah T. Young, Secretary of State; Fletcher W. Young, Deputy Secretary of State; Buren R. Sherman, Auditor of State; John C. Parrish, Deputy Auditor of State; William Christy, Treasurer of State; John D. Ingalls, Deputy Treasurer of State; David Secor, Register of the State Land Office; John M. Davis, Deputy Register of State Land Office; Professor Von Coelln, Superintendent of Public Instruction; Rev. J. A. Nash, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction; Mrs. Ada North, State Librarian; M. E. Cutts, Attorney General; Richard P. Clarkson, State Printer; Henry A. Perkins, State Binder.

SUPREME COURT.

The Supreme Court of the State, which has met at Des Moines since 1861, is now constituted as follows: W. H. Seevers, Chief Justice; J. H. Rothrock, Austin Adams, James G. Day, J. M. Beck; J. S. Runnells, Reporter; E. J. Holmes, Clerk.

HAWKEYE FIRE INSURANCE.

The Hawkeye Fire Insurance Company of Des Moines, was organized in 1865, by E. J. Ingersoll, B. F. Allen, J. B. Tiffin, F. W. Palmer, and James Callanan. Mr. Inger-

soll was chosen President, and Mr. Allen, Treasurer. Capital stock, $100,000. The present officers are: President, E. J. Ingersoll; Vice-President and Treasurer, James Callanan; Secretary, Adam Howell.

STATE INSURANCE COMPANY. (FIRE.)

This Company was organized in Des Moines, September 6, 1865, with the following officers: President, W. M. Stone; Vice-President, C. C. Cole; Treasurer, W. H. Holmes; Secretary, J. M. Shuck. The present officers are: President, J. M. Coggeshall; Vice-President, C. P. Holmes; Treasurer, Samuel Merrill; Secretary, J. E. Myers. Capital stock, $300,000.

EQUITABLE LIFE INSURANCE

The Equitable Lite Insurance Company of Des Moines, was organized in 1867. Capital stock $100,000. The officers are: President, Hoyt Sherman; Vice-President, L. P. Sherman; Secretary, J. S. Polk; Treasurer, F. R. West.

CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The first regular meeting of this body, the object of which is to encourage manufactures, and promote in all other ways the material interests of the city, was held at the Court House, May 24, 1872, Hoyt Sherman, in the chair. A. G. Kingsbury was chosen Secretary. W. S. Pritchard, Chairman of Committee on Organization, reported Constitution and By-Laws, which were adopted. The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to solicit members: Messrs. Collins, Tuttle, Hatton, Voodry, and Roberts.

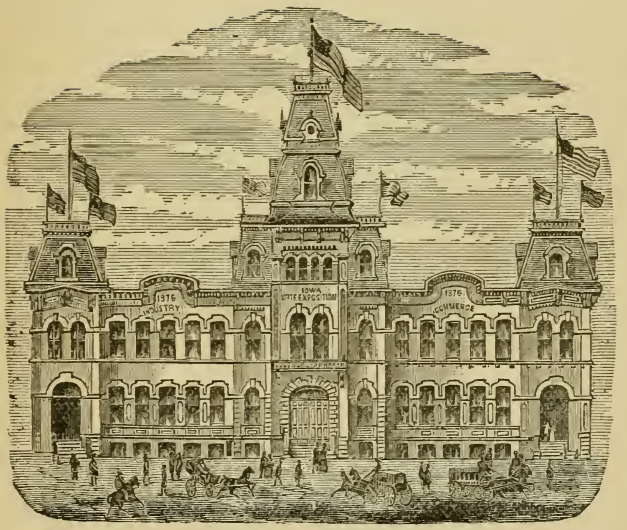
The first regular officers of the Des Moines Citizen's Association, were: Thomas Hatton, President; L. W. Dennis, Vice-President; A. L. West, Treasurer; Hoyt Sherman, Chairman Finance Committee; N. B. Collins, Chairman

Committee of Manufactures; J. B. Stewart, Chairman Committee on Taxes; C. H. Gatch, Chairman Committee on Laws; Samuel Merrill, Chairman Committee on Railroads; J. A. Ankeny, Chairman Committee on Home Manufactures; R. S. Innes, Chairman Committee on Publications; John A. Elliott, Chairman Committee on Improvements.

IOWA EXPOSITION BUILDING.

This immense building, 132 feet square, three stories high, located on the corner of Eighth and Walnut, has just been completed by Youngerman and Whittaker, Contractors. It was formally opened on the 5th day of October, with appropriate ceremonies, Senator Wright delivering the Address. The building contains an Art Hall on the second floor, lighted from the dome by a sky-light. This is one of the most attractive features of the exhibition. The museum rooms are spacious, embracing rich collections from many countries, of natural and historical curiosities. The exhibit of Iowa at the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, will be returned to this building, to be retained here permanently.

There is a fine reception room, admirably furnished for the accommodation of visitors. A large dining-room and kitchen are fitted up with all modern improvements. The State Horticultural Society, at its last annual session in Des Moines, voted to place its collection of fruits, woods, &c., in this building. The Exposition embraces a systematic classification of minerals, architectural materials of all kinds, roofing materials, all kinds of upholstry, apparatus for heating, stoves, furnaces, fences, gates, garden ornaments, gas and water fixtures, patents, glassware, vehicles, carriage furniture, clothing, goods for the Masonic and other orders, India Rubber goods, paper articles, leather works, engines, woolen goods, silks, laces, straw goods, paintings, lithographs, sculpture and statuary, florists' articles, artists' ma-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terials, zinc and copper-ware, jewelry, perfumeries, drugs, tobacco, head and feet clothing, guns and pistols, surgical and dental instruments, hand tools, musical instruments, railroad supplies, steam fixtures, farming implements, scales, farm and garden products, show cases, safes, locks, and other miscellaneous articles.

The capital stock of the Company is $50,000 paid up. The officers are: Major Hoyt Sherman, President; Samuel Merrill, Vice-President; L. M. Sandford, Secretary; A. C. Talbott, Treasurer; and W. T. Dart Superintendent.

The Directors are: Hon. Samuel Merrill, Major Hoyt Sherman, George H. Maish, Colonel C. H. Gatch, W. T. Dart, A. C. Talbott, and L. M. Sandford.

A $5,000 organ, manufactured in St. Louis expressly for this Exposition, will be one of its features.

On Tuesday evening September 12, 1876, a grand ball was given.

The Iowa Industrial Exposition has been, since its opening, a pre-eminent success. The rooms have been thronged, day and night, with visitors, all of whom have gone away delighted with the exhibition. New attractions in the different departments are multiplying every day, making the Exposition the object of general admiration.

FARMERS' EXCHANGE AND CLUB.

C. D. Reinking has generously set apart a room in his Block on Walnut street, which will be occupied as a Farmers' Exchange, an organization designed to advertise whatever the farmers desire to sell, and whatever consumers in the city, and elsewhere, desire to purchase. The Exchange Agent is William Duane Wilson, whose duties are to keep the books of the Exchange, keep the room open, and superintend the bulletin in the front of the building, which publishes such articles as are needed. In this way, farmers can report what they have to sell, and find an im-

mediate market; and in this way also, persons who wish to buy anything the farmer has to sell, will find the desired article without delay.

The Farmers' Club was organized in Des Moines, March, 1876. The place of meeting is at the Farmers' Exchange, which constitutes the headquarters for the farmers of Polk county. The present officers are: President, M. W. Robinson; Vice-President, H. C. Hargis; Secretary, N. J. Harris. The Club meets monthly.

BRASS AND STRING BANDS.

The first Brass Band of Fort Des Moines was organized about the year 1855, and the following persons were members: William E. Posegate, Dr. H. C. Grimmel, Dr. George Grimmel, now of Jefferson, Thomas Boyd and his brother, William Deford, James Hall, Alonzo Dicks, W. T. Smith, C. A. Mosier, and Prof. Kearns, the leader. This Band was a grand feature at Fourth of July celebrations and other festive occasions. It also gave concerts to assist in paying teachers' salaries, and it finally died, as one of its old members informs us, for want of wind!

One of the pioneer Brass Bands of Des Moines was organized by Professor A. Hartung, in 1859. It was called the Des Moines Brass Band, and had an existence about five years, under the same leadership. The following were the original members: Major L. B. Houston, Ed. Kimball, Bud Houston, James Hoar, William Boyd, J. S. Carter, Tac Hussey, E. N. Curl, Frank Eastabrook, Samuel Noble, W. H. Bitting, and Dan Hutton.

About the same time, the same gentleman organized another band, known as Hartung's String Band, composed of the following members: William Boyd, Ed. Kimball, Fred Ensign, and James Hoar. This Band had an uninterrupted existence of fifteen years, under the leadership of Professor

Hartung, the only changes in the time being those which refer to membership.

Dissmore's Orchestra was organized in 1874, with the following members: First Violin, George A. Dissmore, Leader; Second Violin, Frank Senftle; First Cornet, Ed. R. Hollis; Second Cornet, J. W. Bartlett; Clarionet, John Plocek; Flute, Paul Blaise; Trombone, George Clark; Bass, C. Ferguson; Snare Drum, E. F. Ward.

The Capital City Silver Cornet Band was organized April, 1872, with E. B. Hollis as Leader, and Noah Stutzman, as Treasurer. The total membership at that time was eleven. The following are the present members: E. B. Hollis, Leader, 1st E Flat Cornet; R. Robinson, 2d Leader, 2d E Flat Cornet G. A. Dissmore, Solo B Flat Cornet; Paul Blaise, Secretary, 1st B Flat Cornet; P. West, 2d B Flat Cornet; Ed Fritz, Solo E Flat Cornet; Sol. Stutzman, 1st E Flat Alto; P. Shonalter, 2d E Flat Alto; Noah Stutzman, Treasurer, 2d B Flat Tenor; G. W. Clark, 1st B Flat Tenor; J. Plocek, Baritone; S. B. Brott, E Flat Basso; E. F. Ward, Snare Drum, and A. W. Moor, Bass Drum.

FIRE COMPANIES.

The first Fire Company of the city, the Hook and Ladder, was organized in 1865, by the following gentlemen: Charley Harrington, William Nafie, Charles S. Spofford, William England, John Miller, and Jack Sell. The first officers were: Foreman, Charley Harrington; Assistant Foreman, Jack Sell; President, Charley Spofford; Secretary, William England.

After the city had purchased an engine, the Company was reorganized under the name of the Hawkeye Hose Company, with the following officers: President, John Miller; Secretary, William England; Treasurer, David Utterson; Chief Engineer, Charley Spofford; Foreman, Charley Harrington; Assistant Foreman, Jack Sell.

In March, 1867, a meeting over Christy's hat store, was held to discuss the question of organizing a Fire Company. The organization was effected, and G. Washburn, was elected Foreman. The Company numbered fifty members. A proposition was submitted by the city council to the citizens this to raise by taxation a sum sufficient to buy an engine; but proposition was defeated, and the company was disbanded.

A few days later, W. A. Mitchell, C. O. Harrington, and W. D. Christy, met in Sherman Hall and took steps to start another company. The first regular meeting under the new enterprise, was April 1, 1867, George C. Tichenor in the chair, and W. D. Christy was chosen Secretary. The company was styled the Rescue Hook and Ladder Company, and its services were tendered to the city. On the 8th of April, the city council voted to purchase a Hook and Ladder, which was obtained, and placed under charge of the company. Charley Spofford was elected Foreman, and on the 8th of July was elected Chief Engineer, and C. O. Harrington, Foreman. This Company did effective service, saving a large amount of property in peril from the flames.

A year later, 1868, the Company was reorganized, the city having purchased a Steam Fire Engine for their use. The old Hook and Ladder Truck was turned over to a new organization, under the title of Excelsior Hook and Ladder Company. Both organizations under the name of Rescue No. 1, constituted one department, with C. F. Spofford as Chief, who was succeeded in order by General N. B. Baker, John Miller, William P. Dexter, William Nafie, C. T. Hahnan, Jacob Stoll, and R. Johnson.

This consolidated organization continued without change until the advent of the Water Works in 1870, when a new Company, under the name of Fellowship Hose Company, No. 2, was organized in East Des Moines. In due time Engine Houses were erected on West Locust street and East Court Avenue.

A meeting of Division No. 1, called by William Nafie, Chief Engineer, was held at the Engine House, June 6, 1873, at which time another consolidation was effected under the name and style of Hawkeye Hose and Ladder Company, of Des Moines, with Divisions Nos. 1 and 2. A new Fire Department, superceding the old, and embracing the city, was thus created. The following officers were chosen: President, F. Voodry; Vice-President, R. Morris; Secretary, W. H. Bracken; Treasurer, John McGuire.

June 11th, 1873, the following officers were elected: Assistant Chief, Frank Voodry; Foreman of Hose, J. Pattee; Assistant Foreman of Hose, C. Riley; Foreman of Hooks, John McGuire; Assistant Foreman of Hooks, A. M. Drake. March 22, 1876, the present officers were elected, as follows: President, Thomas Kemp; Vice-President, J. McGuire; Secretary, Thomas Brooke; Treasurer, J. McGuire; Assistant Engineer, J. Stoll; Foreman of Hose, Thomas Kemp; Assistant Foreman of Hose, Charles Shaffer; Foreman of Hooks, J. McGuire; Assistant Foreman of Hooks, G. Sample. The Chief of Department in 1873, was William Nafie, and in 1876, R. C. Johnson, who succeeded Jacob Stoll. Seven fires have occurred in the city since April 4, 1876.

The Fellowship Hose Company, Division No. 2, was organized June 16, 1873, with seven members. The following were the first officers: Assistant Engineer, A. Christy; President, H. H. Rich; Secretary, L. W. Jones; Treasurer, A. B. Faulk; Foreman, W. C. Tulley. The present officers are: Assistant Engineer, James Murphy; President, A. B. Faulk; Secretary, J. A. Bryan; Treasurer, A. B. Faulk; Foreman, James Crystal. Number of members at this date, eight.

HOSPITAL AND WORKING-MEN'S CLUB.

During the administration of J. S. Reed, Rector of St. Paul's Church, several enterprises of a beneficent character were inaugurated, which we have noticed elsewhere; some

of which, since his resignation, have been carried on successfully by Rev. J. B. Clark, Gen. L. A. Grant, Charles Seeburger, and the Ladies of the Episcopal Church. December 14, 1875, Mr. Reed called a meeting of the ladies the object of which was the establishment in Des Moines of a hospital for the sick, maimed, and poor. The ladies present were Mesdames Crocker, Tracy, Monroe, Myers, Jewett, Porter, Savery, and Misses Abbie Mitchell and Sallie Griffiths.

February 15, 1876, Cottage Hospital was started with the understanding that no patients with contagious diseases should be admitted, and that no discriminations should be made in reference to religion, and nationality. Much liberality in behalf of the enterprise, was manifested by our citizens. Wesley Redhead proposed to furnish coal, and Drs. Rawson, Ward, Hannawalt, Field, Bowman, and other physicians, proffered their professional services. The Board of Managers consisted of, President, Rev. J. S. Reed; Secretary, Mrs. A. B. Tracy; Treasurer, Mrs. S. C. Gardner; Mrs. George Crandale, Mrs. W. C. Finch, Mrs. M. M. Crocker, and Mrs. J. E. Tone. These ladies, with others, take turns in visiting the Hospital. The substitution of Rev. J. B. Clark for Mr. Reed, is the only change which has taken place in the Board.

The Hospital is located at No. 923, Seventh street. The services of Samuel Davis and his wife were secured as Steward and Matron. In all, twenty-five patients have been received, but one of whom died. At present, there are five patients. Twenty-two butchers of the city, supply the hospital with meats free of charge. The managers gladly receive contributions of every kind and character that can be utilized. Of the twenty-five patients admitted, two only were members of the Episcopal Church.

St. Paul's Workingmen's Club and Institute of Des Moines, was organized under the auspices of Rev. J. S.

Reed, January 19, 1876. The objects to be attained are of a business, social, and beneficiary character. The present officers are: President, Rev. J. B. Clark; Vice President, T. M. Knight; Secretary, George E. Belt; Treasurer, H. J. Childress; Conductor, J. P. Smith. Present membership, seventy-eight.

The Parish Aid Society; the Mothers' Meeting, organized October 15, 1874; Night School; Industrial School for Little Girls, October 17, 1874; Woman's Missionary Association, April 30, 1874; Parish Guild, January 1, 1874; Sunday School Fellowship, May 12, 1874; Guild House, with J. S. Morse as General Superintendent, and Mrs. E. Porter, Matron; the Parish School, established, April, 1875; Employment Bureau, and Seabury School, are enterprises which grew up under the fostering care of the Episcopal Church.

POLITICAL CADETS.

The Tilden and Hendricks Cadets went into organization in August last. Their officers are: Captain, W. H. Merritt, Jr.; First Lieutenant, Dan. M. Finch; Second Lieutenant, Thomas Northup; President, S. M. Rice; Vice President, Charles H. Lewis; Secretary, W. L. Kirk; Treasurer, W. H. McHenry, Jr.

The Hayes and Wheeler Cadets have the following officers: Captain, J. L. Nash; First Lieutenant, Frank Williamson; Second Lieutenant, Charley Tuttle.

Both companies are finely uniformed and well disciplined, and both took part in the funeral procession which followed the remains of General Baker to Woodland Cemetery.

MINERAL SPRINGS.

A spring of this character is situated on the farm of Wm. S. Bennett, near the city. There is a copious supply of water, which comes to the surface from a depth of 190 feet.

An analysis, by Prof. Blaney, of Chicago, gives to this water the finest medicinal properties.

Three other mineral springs have been discovered, one of which is on the property of Gen. L. A. Grant, another on the land of George W. Savery, and another still on the property of Wesley Redhead. All these springs are in the immediate vicinity of the city, and all of them, as claimed by their friends, possess medical virtues of high order.

Ira Mitchell, of Des Moines, is engaged in introducing these mineral waters to our people.

MUSICAL COMPOSER.

Prof. V. C. Taylor, well known as an accomplished musical composer and teacher of music, came from Brooklyn, New York, to Des Moines, March 1, 1865. He is the author of several musical works of great merit. Not long since he revised the popular Cantata of Queen Esther, and its performance at Moore's Opera House, under his direction, in May last, was universally applauded. In this entertainment, he secured the services alone of home talent, and it is proper to say here that the native musical talent of Des Moines is of high excellence.

On Thursday and Friday evenings, October 26 and 27, 1876, Prof. Taylor introduced, at Moore's Opera House, a Cantata in five acts, named "Joseph," the greater part of which was originated by himself. It displayed much genius; and the music, all of which was composed by the Professor, was very highly commended. The characters in this Cantata are generally drawn from the Bible. The ladies and gentlemen who personated the characters were: Prof. W. H. Leib, St. Paul, Minn.; W. P. Guiberson, Edward Coykendall, Dr. R. M. Stone, A. T. Harritt, C. E. Risser, C. P. Gray, S. F. Blixt, S. M. Rice, D. R. Town, A. M. Ferguson, C. E. Wingate, Mrs. I. N. Noland, Carrie Laird, Min-

nie Mecracken, C. A. Ferguson, Mrs. Hiram Robinson, Mrs. J. S. Clarkson, Grace Clark, Emma Reigelman, Belle Daugherty, Callie Smith, Anna Daugherty, Winnie Wightman, Mrs. W. S. Vernon, Hattie M. West, and Henry Hirsch.

POLK COUNTY POETS.

Several years ago, Leonard Brown, one of our early settlers, published a volume of his own composition, entitled "Poems of the Prairie." Many of the poems in this volume evinced native talent, showing that the author could, by the cultivation of his faculties, take rank among the accredited poets of the age. One of his prose works, entitled "American Patriotism," containing biographical sketches of the soldiers from our county, who lost their lives in the service of their country, during the war for the Union, is very highly prized by our citizens, as a contribution to history, which should be in all our libraries.

In 1871, W. W. Fink, of this city, published, under the auspices of Mills & Co., a poem entitled "Valley Forge," descriptive of senes and sufferings during the Revolutionary War. During the present year, the same author issued another volume, entitled "Hades and other Poems." Both of these volumes indicate genius, especially in the realms of poetical imagery and ideality.

ADJUTANT GENERAL N. B. BAKER.

This distinguished gentleman, so intimately connected with the military history of Iowa, died at his residence in Des Moines Wednesday morning at one o'clock, September 13th, 1876, in the 58th year of his age. Elsewhere in these pages the reader will find a sketch of him and his services. The funeral services, which occurred Friday afternoon, September 15th, were of a character to indicate the popular esteem and affection in which he was held by the people. All

the military, political, and civic organizations of the county contributed their services on the solemn occasion, swelling the procession as it passed from St. Paul's Church, on Seventh street, to Woodland Cemetery, to proportions which were indeed formidable. Three Iowa Governors, Kirkwood Merrill and Stone were present.

The pall bearers were: Governor Merrill, P. M. Casady, Lieut.-Governor Gue, Gen. Ed Wright, Gen. J. A. Williamson, George W. Jones, G. M. Hippee, and J. N. Dewey. No other funeral in the State was ever more largely attended; and no other death was ever followed by more genuine and heartfelt mourning. General Baker was loved by every soldier; and the thousands of poor people all over the State, and all over the West, indeed, whom he befriended in their direst extremity and want, will never forget him, so long as the chords of their hearts shall beat in response to the touch of a people's gratitude. His body sleeps in Woodland Cemetery, but his great name and his deeds of charity and good will to his fellow men are alive and awake evermore, in the memories of his countrymen.

The successor of General Baker in the Adjutant General's office, is John H. Looby, who, as a member of the Second Iowa Infantry, was severely wounded at Shiloh, and remained helpless and exposed on the field through long and dreary hours after the battle had terminated. He was disabled for life. We knew him well in the olden time, when life was young and full of glowing anticipations. The office has come to a gentleman who will fill it, as his predecessor did, worthily and well.

FIRST ODD FELLOWS' BURIAL.

The name of Conrad Youngerman appears among the dead of early settlers, elsewhere in this volume. For fear that readers may suppose we have committed an egregious blunder, confounding with dead men one of the most en-

terprising citizens of Des Moines, who bids fair to live a thousand years, we desire to state that the Conrad Youngerman of Early Settlers was drowned in the Des Moines river, near the City, during the great inundation of 1851. He was a brother of John Youngerman, of Walnut township, and not at all related to our energetic contractor and builder of the same name. It is stated on good authority that his funeral was the first among citizens of the county which was directed by the Odd Fellows.

FIRST PHOTOGRAPHERS.

G. L. Reynolds was the first Photographer in Des Moines, having arrived here in 1856. In 1827, he gave us for publication in the *Citizen*, a graphic account of the adventures he experienced some years before in obtaining an opportunity to take the picture of Henry Clay, at his residence in Kentucky. Several years ago Mr. Reynolds removed to California. J. P. Sharman, of this place, who commenced the same business in 1859, recently received a letter from Mr. Reynolds, in which that gentleman refers with much pleasure to his old Des Moines associations. Mr. Sharman was the second photographer in the City.

There are many artists of this class now in Des Moines, of whom we would be glad to speak in this connection, but want of space forbids this indulgence.

Mrs. Sharman, mother of the artist, had a music store in the town, and sold Organs and Pianos as early as 1857. She is now residing in St. Louis.

INDIAN CHIEFS.

At the last payment made to the Indians at the Old Agency, in the Fall of 1845, Keokuk, Young Black Hawk, Poweshiek, Green and Squinty-Eyes, Chiefs of the Sacs and Foxes, were present. Dr. James Campbell, who saw them, states that Keokuk and Poweshiek were not tall in person,

but were quite corpulent. Young Black Hawk, son of the historic Chief, was about 22 years of age, with a tall and graceful figure.

When Poweshiek left Fort Des Moines, he went southward, and encamped with forty lodges on Grand river, a short distance north of the Missouri boundary. The whites of Northern Missouri became irritated at the proximity of the savages, and threatened war and extermination. The Indians on the other hand were equally exasperated against the whites, and bloody war seemed imminent.

At this juncture, Dr. Campbell, J. B. Scott and Hamilton Thrift, hearing of the trouble in which their old friend Poweshiek was involved, mounted their horses at the Fort, and rode nearly a hundred miles through the deep snow of 1845-6. Arriving at Grand River, they found the situation very gloomy and threatening. Poweshiek and his band of warriors, were engaged in holding two or three Dog Festivals every day. This meant war. Mr. Scott took Poweshiek aside, and spoke to him substantially as follows:

"My friends and myself have traveled through the snow a long distance to help you out of this trouble. We are your friends. If you persist in your purpose of making war on the whites, many of your squaws and pappooses, as well as your braves, will be butchered. The remainder will be driven out in the cold and snow, to perish on the prairies. It would be better now for you to break up your lodges, and go in peace to the reservation in Kansas, which the Government has provided for you."

It was some time before the old Chief could bring himself to accept this good advice. He was fearful, if he vacated his place of encampment on Grand River, he would be stigmatized as a coward, and this he could not endure. He was finally made to comprehend the true situation; and it was not long ere his lodges dotted the surface of the prairie, hundreds of miles away from Grand River. The

timely arrival of friends, and the peace measures counseled by them, saved the old warrior and his band from much trouble, and possibly from extermination.

OLD BLOCK HOUSE, ETC.

One of the old block houses may still be seen, on the west side of Fourth street, between Market and Elm. Four cottonwood trees were planted in the vicinity a long time ago, three of which are still remaining. Nearly opposite this old relic, stands a log building, erected by Thomas McMullen in 1847. It is claimed that this was the first hewed log house built at the Fort, although another building, elsewhere referred to, has claims to this honor.

William Lamb had a trading post one mile below the Old Agency. A man by the name of Whisler, was also a noted trader. Dr. Campbell crossed into the Territory at New Boston, Illinois, in 1839, and at Blackhawk, near the mouth of the Iowa River.

White's Steam Flouring Mill covers the site of the old nine-pin alley, built by Nathaniel Campbell, in the Southern part of the town.

THE TAXIDERMIST.

An excentric and gifted gentleman, by the name of Moore, full of genial wit and racy anecdote, was employed by A. J. Stevens and others in 1856, to go in the capacity of a professional Taxidermist, or bird-stuffer, to Brazil, in South America. The object of the Company was to establish a kind of museum at Fort Des Moines, an important feature of which would be the bird collections from the Tropics, which were expected to arrive in due course of time. Mr. Moore went on his mission; and after having penetrated to the heart of the Continent in his weary march up the Amazon, an accident occurred, involving the death of one of Mr. Moore's companions, which put an abrupt

end to the expedition. The circumstances attending this death, will, perhaps, never be revealed; but they were of such a nature as to throw suspicion on Mr. Moore.

In the spring of 1857, Mr. Moore returned to Des Moines, bringing with him quite a collection of South American birds, which were afterward on exhibition in one of the rooms of the Savery House. The Taxidermist came home discouraged and demoralized, drinking deeply and repeatedly, until one day, weary and disappointed, he shook the Des Moines dust from his feet and garments, and left, never to return. We heard that a little boy, son of this gentleman, was seen after he had been deserted by the father, crying in the streets of the city of Des Moines. A generous farmer pitied him, took him to his home, and adopted him as a member of his family. Nothing on earth but intemperance, would have induced such a man as Professor Moore to be guilty of this unfatherly and unnatural desertion of his child.

PRIMITIVE SALOON.

At the Point, as it was classically called, which is understood to have been the place near which Dr. James Campbell's Eye and Ear Infirmary now stands, a grocery or liquor store was in full blast, from 1848, to 1850. It was carried on in a wooden building, the south room of which contained a high counter, and all other appendages of a primative drinking establishment. There the imbibing customer could take his drinks, straight, mixed, complicated, or involuted, just as he pleased; and he had the opportunity, also, to lose his surplus dollars at different kinds of games. These exercises enlivened the monotony of the passing hour.

AN OLD LAND MARK GONE.

Years ago the old house—part log and part frame, at the Southeast corner of Twelfth and Walnut streets was one of the fashionable Mansions of Des Moines. It was built in 1848, by an early settler whose name we cannot recall. The next year it became the property of Mr. Keene, and then found its way into the hands of his brother, the husband of Mrs. Sypher. When that lady resided there, there was no other house in sight of it, although by taking a short walk to a stake and ridered fence, just east of it, the residence of Mrs. Grimmel on the hill, and one other house on what is now Third street, were visible. It was the headquarters for Des Moines society, and there after the day's toils were ended, Judge Casaday, Major Hoyt Sherman, D. O. Finch, and many of the gentlemen now known as Old Settlers, but then young men with the world before them, were wont to congregate and talk of "the girls they had left behind them," and enjoy the hospitality, never stinted, of Mr. and Mrs. Keene.

At one time it was the residence of Dr. Fagan. Then Mr. D. O. Finch and wife made it a seat of pleasant hospitality.

Just west of it, a portion of the plat being now used by Peter Lambert for greenhouse purposes, was the play ground of the Indians, whose close proximity and boisterous sport kept Mrs. Keene in constant alarm.

The old house has a history rich in items for a Local's pencil, and some day they may be told, but the present purpose is only to record that the old landmark is no more. It had become too old for service or beauty, and has been torn down and removed.—*Register*, *July*, 1876.

ONE OF OUR OLD LAND-MARKS.

The Corning *Gazette*, edited by W. H. Hoxie, copies our article about the old land-mark on the corner of Twelfth and Walnut streets, in this city, now being torn down, and then adds the following chapter:

We clip the above from the *State Register*, and will chip in our mite of history of the old house. The house was built by B. T. Hoxie, father of the editor of this paper, and it was in the year 1847, if we are not mistaken. The logs for the house were cut in the timber north of Fort Des Moines, and what was rare in those days, they were hewn. That was style on the frontier then. The winter of the "deep snow," as it was always referred to by the old settlers, Dr. P. B. Fagan was married to our eldest sister, the ceremonies taking place in that house. The storm was so severe that the guests were compelled to remain, some of them, for several days. But who ever knew a pioneer's house to be too small to entertain any sized crowd? Among those present were Thomas Mitchell, who then lived in Apple Grove, T. K. Brooks, then of Agency Prairie, and many others whose names we cannot remember. C. C. Van was there, coming in an ox team, but pretending it was a carriage. Any of the old settlers of Polk county can tell other incidents of the wedding.

Years afterwards a brother, M. B. Hoxie, was married and commenced housekeeping in the old homestead, living there some time.

This house was the last one standing, to our knowledge, erected by our father, and we are sorry it has been torn away. It has been our custom, when visiting Des Moines, to take a look at the old house, in memory of the days of yore. Now it is gone. The time was when it was the best house in all Polk county. Fort Des Moines was not the Capital then, and did not contain a two-million State House,

palace hotels, or palatial residences, as it now does, but it did contain, and does yet, as true and warm hearted a set of people as the sun ever shone on. Here's to the memory of the old times, in the old homestead!—*Register, Aug.*, 1876.

FIRST WHITE INHABITANTS.

We have hitherto referred to Benjamin Bryant and William Lamb, in speaking of the first white inhabitants of this region. These gentlemen frequently stated that they came here before the Indians, which was historically true. Before the Sac and Fox Indians were removed hither from the Agency in Wapello county, Messrs. Bryant and Lamb came in advance to make some necessary preparations for such removal. In writing of first inhabitants, it would be a serious omission to ignore the name of John Hays, now living in Bloomfield Township, and formerly Sheriff of the County.

Mr. Hays and his brother Samuel, the latter of whom was married at the time, came from Missouri to the site on which Polk City stands, March, 1846, while Iowa was yet a Territory. Their nearest neighbor was an old bachelor by the name of Shipman, whose log cabin was about a mile and a half northwest of Messrs. Hays' residence. A man named Evan Harris—a kind of poetical wag, by the way—had also immigrated from Missouri in the Spring of 1846. One day, Mr. Harris had occasion to visit Mr. Shipman, and becoming irritated at the absence of the person whom he desired to see, he meditated a moment, and then wrote on the door of the cabin the following characteristic lines, which, if not elegant, are at least emphatic :

> "Evan Harris was here to-day,
> Cursed the Old Bachelor, and went away."

The brothers Hays had selected a claim at the place where they first settled, but circumstances not necessary to

narrate here, induced them to move the same season to Saylor Grove, after having disposed of their possessions to George Beebe, one of the patriarchs of Madison Township. Meantime, Evan Harris returned to Missouri, where he enlisted as a soldier, and died in the service during the Mexican War. Messrs. Hays rented land of John Saylor, son of Benjamin Saylor, and they soon became acquainted with J. P. Saylor, Frank Nagle, Solomon Bayles, Addison Michael, Eli Keeler, Perry Ware, James Bradley, and many others whose names are included in the list of our pioneers.

Samuel Hays died in early times, and his brother John removed to Fort Des Moines in 1849. In speaking of his recollections of that period, Mr. Hays states that, aside from the garrison buildings, which extended for some distance along the banks of both rivers, the improvements at the Fort were few and insignificant. What is now called East Des Moines was divided into farms, and the greater part of the site of the present city was covered with dense and primitive thickets of hazel bushes. On his arrival at the Fort, Mr. Hays established himself in a rude log cabin, with but one room in it, located on Second street, between Walnut and Locust. The house is still standing, as a memento and memorial of a past age.

It is worthy of remark here, that the lot on which Exchange Block, Walnut street, was afterwards erected, was offered to Mr. Hays for seven and a half dollars; but as John could not then see the future glory of the State Capital, he rejected the offer with much decision and emphasis, as utterly exorbitant! Subsequently, he bought one of the lots belonging now to the Avenue House, for one hundred half-dollars, in jingling specie, which was the currency of those times in the West.

From the personal recollections of Col. Barlow Granger, formerly an apprentice to Henry S. Randall, Editor of the Courtland *Advocate*, New York, and afterwards a printer

in the *Republican* office, St. Louis, we have obtained the following items: He, and a partner, by the name of James B. Jones, arrived at Fort Des Moines in the Summer of 1848, designing to engage in sales of real estate. Reaching a point which overlooked the city, as they approached their destination, each one of these gentlemen designated a particular site on which he intended, at some future time, to establish his residence. Mr. Jones chose the site now occupied as the residence of B. F. Allen, while Col. Granger selected the precise location on which he has been living for a score of years. The former was disappointed in his selection, while the latter realized all his expectations.

At first, Col. G. occupied as an office a building on the corner of Market and Third streets, opposite the old Ohio or Buckeye House. The same old house, still standing, was employed after its vacation by Mr. Granger, in 1853, for saloon purposes, by Gotleib Munzenmaier, who excavated a rude hole in the earth for a temporary cellar, in which to deposit his casks of beer. Old citizens well remember an ancient building on Court Avenue, north side, between Second and Third streets, to the basement of which a pair of stairs led directly from the street. This basement contained the principal pioneer saloon in Fort Des Moines, and was operated by Mr. M. The old Cottage House, on Court Avenue, was built by Benjamin Saylor, in 1849.

EFFECTS OF JEALOUSY.

One Sunday evening, just after nightfall, in the spring of 1858, a young man named Chandler, in company with a Miss King, was walking near the northern limits of the city. An Englishman by the name of Rosseter, had been paying attention to the young lady, but was repelled. Fired with jealousy and bad whisky, he secured a pistol, and on the evening indicated, secreted himself in a hazel-thicket near the road. As Mr. Chandler and lady were

passing the thicket, Rosseter stealthily left his ambush, and coming behind the unsuspecting party, he placed the muzzle of the pistol almost in contact with the back of Mr. Chandler's head, and fired. The bullet perforated the palm-leaf hat which the victim wore, and penetrated deeply into the brain, killing him instantly. Rosseter then fired a shot at Miss King, wounding her in the hand, and causing her to faint. Supposing that the work of murder was now complete, as both victims lay motionless on the ground, Rosseter turned the muzzle of his pistol against his right temple, and pulled the trigger. He died next day in an old untenanted building. Miss King recovered of her wound, and is yet, we believe, a citizen of Des Moines.

DR. BROOKS' BRICK HOUSE.

In 1851, during the period of high water, Dr. Brooks employed a raft on 'Coon, with which to float from the brickyard the material for building the first brick house in East Fort Des Moines. The structure was finished in the fall of that year, and occupied a position near the R. I. R. R. bridge.

HORACE GREELEY'S VISIT.

On the 22d day of September, 1871, while Horace Greeley was delivering an agricultural address to 15,000 people on the Fair Grounds, an alarm of fire in the city created great consternation. It was soon discovered that Hoyt Sherman's residence was in flames; and besides this, a large part of the block on Sixth street, between Locust and Walnut, was consumed by fire. That was the last visit of Mr. Greeley to the West.

SUNDRY HISTORIC ITEMS.

In 1849, Ben. Saylor erected a frame house, fronting on Third street, on the lot on which Sherman Block now stands.

The first spike on the narrow Gauge Railroad, was driven by Gov. Carpenter, at 10 o'clock A. M., January 12, 1874, at the corner of Vine and Fourth streets, East Side, amid the screams of locomotives, the beating of drums, cheers and huzzas, and strains from the brass band. Speeches were made on the occasion by Ex-Gov. Merrill, Col. L. Q. Hoggatt, President Welch, Senator Larabee, and Gov. Carpenter.

The Polk County Fair Grounds were covered, as late as 1851, with high prairie grass, and plum thickets. Near as they were to town, they were infested by wolves, and other denizens of untamed nature.

FLOOD OF 1851.

The memorable flood of 1851, lasted from the middle of May to the middle of July. The Des Moines river extended to the bluffs on the East Side; and immigrants were transported in flat-boats from East Walnut street, to Van's Point, South of 'Coon. Jesse Dicks rafted along Second street, the logs with which he built his house. During this period, there was great scarcity of provisions; and J. M. Thrift, and J. M. Griffiths, the latter of whom was at that time a grocer on Second street, started in a skiff to St. Louis, to order the necessary stores. Their return was hailed with great rejoicing by the half famished citizens.

REMINISCENCES.

George Sneer, one of our City Aldermen, who came to Fort Des Moines with his step-father, Dr. F. C. Grimmel, October 15th, 1846, has furnished us with several reminiscences of the olden time. He states that the first residence of B. T. Hoxie was on Third street, immediately north of where Harbach's stone front building now stands. It was in the old log building of Mr. Hoxie, that the wedding of Thomas McMullen, and a sister of Mr. Sneer, took place.

The frame building erected by Addison Michael, to which reference has been made, was located but a little distance east of where Skinner's plow shop stands. This, Mr. Sneer states, was the first frame house erected in town. The second one, built in 1847, was on the southeast corner of Market and Third streets. This is the building which Mr. Granger occupied for a time as an office; and afterwards it was converted into a grocery, or saloon, by Gotlieb Munzenmaier. Mr. M. made it for awhile his residence; and it is worthy of note here, that in this old historic building, Des Moines Lodge, No. 25, I. O. O. F., was organized. Right across Market street from this house, was afterward erected the old Busic Tavern, the name of which was changed to Ohio, or Buckeye House. In the immediate vicinity, just west of Munzenmair's saloon, was the old Tucker, or Collins House; and but a short distance east, was the American House, erected several years later.

The first brick house in town was the old Court House, which was recently merged into Central Block, one of the fine structures of the city. A double log cabin, built in very early times, occupied the site of T. E. Brown's fine residence; and a two-story log building, erected by Mr. Price, occupied the site of Kuhn's business block, on Court Avenue.

William Deford was the first citizen blacksmith in Fort Des Moines, his shop being immediately south and west of where Aullman's Brewery now stands.

The first brewery was built in 1856–7, by George and G. Hierb, on lots purchased from. Mr. Sneer, corner of Seventh and Center streets.

A NOTED CELEBRATION.

In 1863, the Polk County Fourth of July celebration was held at Polk City. Col. C. J. Clark was President; Major J. C. Bennett, Marshal; Hon. C. C. Nourse, Orator; E. D.

Hawes read the Declaration of Independence, and J. W. Doughty, of Des Moines, with a class of Polk City singers, furnished the occasion with appropriate vocal music. N. R. Kuntz was Captain of the Home Guards.

At the appointed time, a procession was formed in the village, which marched to an adjacent grove, led by a band of martial music. Rumors were in circulation, to the effect that the meeting would probably be disturbed by a supposed Anti-Union element in the vicinity. Captain I. W. Griffith, at that time Sheriff of the County, was in attendance, ready, if necessary, to preserve the peace; and if any trouble had been contemplated, it was prevented, in part at least, by his judicious management.

Only one little episode occurred during the exercises, to mar the festivities. While Judge Nourse was delivering his oration, it was rumored that an organized body of disunionists was coming to break up the meeting. The long roll of the military company—Home Guards—was heard, and Major Bennett mounted a seat, and shouted, "To arms! to arms! They'r coming! they'r coming!" Instantly, multitudes of those who were present, arose to their feet in wild alarm. At this moment, Judge Nourse, with a loud voice, called the attention of the crowd, and with his characteristic pleasantry and jocularity, said to them: "Friends, just be seated; there is no danger, I assure you; be seated, and all join in singing, Rally 'Round the Flag, Boys!" Sheriff Griffith, also, assured them that there was no danger, and advised the Home Guards to disband and mingle with the assembly as citizens. Immediately, all were seated again, and a thousand voices joined with the Glee Club in the chorus of that grand old song.

POLK COUNTY AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The first session of the Legislature in Des Moines passed an act providing for a State Agricultural College. A pro-

vision in the law invited donations of money or lands from counties desiring to secure its location. A number of enterprising farmers of Camp township offered lands to the value of ten thousand dollars, to secure the location in that township, where an eligible site had been selected, over looking the Des Moines river. The county, also, by a vote of the people, pledged ten thousand dollars to secure its location in any part of the county. Samuel Reed, an enterprising and public spirited farmer of that township undertook to induce his brother farmers to donate lands, taking the lead in making a handsome donation himself. During his efforts for that purpose he called a meeting of the citizens of that section on the proposed College site, at which about one hundred were present. The advantages of a practical agricultural education were fully discussed, and considerable enthusiasm was manifested. During the meeting an excellent and bountiful lunch, prepared by the ladies, was greatly enjoyed; and it is to be regretted that the wishes of those people had not been complied with. This was the first meeting ever held in the State in behalf of a thorough agricultural education.

THE MORMONS.

In July, 1845, Orson Pratt, with three hundred Mormons, footsore and weary, encamped at Apple Grove, on their way to the Land of Promise. Under the most trying discouragements these wonderful people evinced a fortitude which was almost superhuman. The children, as well as the parents, would break out into hymns of thanksgiving and praise, despite the sufferings and privations which a long journey through a strange country produced.

SPIRIT LAKE MASSACRE.

The fearful massacre of settlers in the vicinity of Spirit Lake, occurred during the winter of 1856–7. The murder-

ers were Sioux Indians. When intelligence of the massacre came to Des Moines, a meeting was immediately held, in the old brick Court-House. Addresses were made by Mayor McHenry and others. A military company was at once organized, of which Mr. McHenry was chosen Captain.

On consultaton with citizens, Mayor McHenry decided to send messengers to the scene of the disaster, who were to make their report before any further action should be taken in regard to the matter. Samuel Noel, Scott, and B. D. Thomas, of this city, were the messengers. On their return they reported that the Indians had left the State; and as there was no further use for the Company which had been organized, it was disbanded.

THE JOHNSON MURDER.

The body of John Johnson was discovered lying on Second street, Sunday morning, June 14th, 1874. He had evidently been murdered, as the wounds in his head indicated. A man named Nelson *alias* Howard, and three other persons, named Rickard, Jameson, and Mrs. Howard, were arrested on suspicion of complicity in the murder.

Howard came to trial in December, 1874, and was found guilty; and the last act of Judge Maxwell as Judge of the District Court, was to sentence him to imprisonment for life in the penitentiary, the exteme penalty of the law for murder in the first degree. The sentence was pronounced on 14th day of December; and the following night, while the convict and his wife were together in the prison, the jail was invaded by a band of masked men, who forcibly took possession of the keys and effected an entrance into the cell. Howard was separated from his wife, and a noose having been thrown over his head, he was dragged violently out of the jail into the open air, and suspended to a lamp post at the northeastern extremity of the court-house

yard. The Vigilantes then quietly dispersed; and though indignation meetings were held, and a formal investigation was instituted, it has not transpired to this day who were the participants in this terrible deed of lawlessness. The other defendants were finally released because of an informality in the indictment.

CAPTAIN JAMES ALLEN.

This gentleman, whose name has so often been employed in these annals, was an uncle of B. F. Allen, of Des Moines. At the breaking out of the Mexican war, he was authorized by his government to organize a body of Mormon troops, and conduct them to the seat of war. On his way down the Missouri river, in command of the troops, he was taken sick. Through the intervention of J. B. Scott and other friends, he was induced to stop at Leavenworth, where he died shortly afterward. He was a bachelor; and the property, including an interest in Parmalee's Mill, which he had accumulated in this part of the country, was left to his nephew, B. F. Allen.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.

G. B. Clark, who made a claim in Allen township in 1844, was a bachelor about thirty-five years of age. He erected two cabins on his claim, one of which was afterwards occupied by J. D. McGlothlen. In the Fall of 1846, after disposing of his property, Mr. Clark bought a half interest in the claim of Willam Lowry, another early settler. Mr. Clark boarded with his partner who had a family; and it was understood that the two men should jointly cultivate the claim.

Much work was done on the premises during the Fall and Winter; and in the Spring of 1847, the ground was placed in preparation for planting corn. At that time, the seed

corn for the new settlements of Polk county, was obtained from the farm of William Lamb, on Agency Prairie.

One morning Mr. Clark started horseback with a sack for the residence of Mr. Lamb, intending to cross the Des Moines river at Newcomer's Point, four miles below Fort Des Moines. He did not return to his home, and much alarm was excited in the community. In a day or two after his disappearance, information was received that he had been seen in the vicinity of Parmalee's Mill on Middle river. After a spirited search, the horse was found on South river, with saddle, bridle, and corn sack still attached to him; but from that day to this, although nearly thirty years have passed away, not a word of tidings has been received in reference to this man's fate. By some it was surmised that he had been murdered; but whether this was the case or not, will probably never be known until the revelations of eternity make it apparent.

MR. MITCHELL'S NARRATIVE.

Since writing the former portion of this work we have received some very valuable items of history from Hon. Thomas Mitchell, of Beaver township, who has been intimately associated with our growth and prosperity during the past thirty-two years. In his communication to us, he states that Henry Mitchell and himself commenced the settlement of Beaver township in 1844, the former erecting the first house, the site of which was near the present residence of Green Wheeler. At that time, the nearest settlers to these pioneers were living at Fort Des Moines, on the West, and Monroe, on the East. This state of seclusion from the busy world lasted two years.

Henry B. and Thomas Mitchell first came to the township in February, 1844; and in the following April, the latter brought his family, consisting of his wife and two children, from Jefferson county, Iowa, and established them in the

new settlement. For three months after this removal, Mrs. Mitchell did not see a white woman except the girl who came with the family. The most accessible trading point at the time, was at Fairfield, a hundred miles distant. It is manifest, therefore, that Mrs. Mitchell did not have the shopping privileges which are conferred on the ladies in these times. Visiting was an infrequent luxury; and the style of dress was simple and inexpensive among the whites, albeit the native women, of whom there were many specimens, tricked themselves out in fantastic costume, embellished with flashy colors, the red predominating.

The Indians were removed in October, 1845, after which the county was open to settlement. In the Eastern part, a few families settled in the Autumn of that year; but Beaver township received no farther accessions until the Spring of 1846, when Lewis M. Burke, a native of Pennsylvania, came from Adams county, Illinois, and located near Mud Creek, where he now resides. He is seventy-five years of age, enjoying good health and a large measure of honor and worldly prosperity.

In July, 1846, George Barlow, of Indiana, bought the claim and improvements of Mr. Mitchell, and in company with his brother, Blenford, settled on this purchase. George was accidentally shot and killed in 1847, while Blenford remained on the farm four or five years. In 1851, Green Wheeler located on the Barlow farm; and about the same time, William Sweeney and a Mr. Netterson pitched their tents in the vicinity of Apple Grove, the residence of Mr. Mitchell.

Beaver Township was, for the most part, backward in settlement, caused by the great preponderance of prairie over forest and grove. In 1854, the farm on which Mr. Mitchell had been living, was purchased and occupied by M. C. Keith, of Western New York, who, in 1856, transferred, by sale, this property to Lambert Sternburg. This

purchase, as well as that of Mr. Keith, included the hotel, which, under the management of Mr. Mitchell and his wife, became exceedingly popular as a place of entertainment during the years of emigration. In 1854, William Duncan settled on Mud Creek, near the home of Mr. Burke. The year ensuing, Benjamin Pearson settled on the prairie between Camp and Mud Creeks.

In 1851, James Rooker located near the upper end of Apple Grove, where he still resides. In 1852, Elijah Canfield, an old resident of Camp township, moved into Beaver. In 1855, Moses Barlow came; and in the same year, three brothers, William, Henry, and Frank Miller, settled on Mud Creek, and erected a saw-mill on that stream; but for the excellent reason that when there was a supply of water there were no logs, and *vice versa*, the enterprise was speedily abandoned. In 1855, Thomas Duncan settled near his brother William; and about the same time, H. O. McBroom established himself on the prairie, as also did Newton Rooker. Samuel Chambers, of the Society of Friends, from Belmont county, Ohio, and James Wingfield, from Virginia, came in 1856.

In 1844, Mr. Mitchell was compelled to travel more than a hundred miles to Bonaparte, to reach a mill. Ten years later, there were several mills in the county; and all the counties east of us were supplied with these desirable establishments. In 1844, the nearest trading point on the east was Fairfield, as before stated; and in 1856, towns and stores had multiplied in a marvelous ratio over the entire State.

In 1849, Mr. Mitchell accompanied to Fairfield a corps of engineers, who, under the lead of Col. Samuel R. Curtis, were surveying the Des Moines river. In December, of that year, the party were blockaded by a fearful snow-storm, the snow lying two feet deep, on a level. On returning, Mr. Mitchell states that the road had to be broken for a

hundred miles, and that the mail matter addressed to Fort Des Moines, which he brought with him, was delayed two weeks by stress of weather.

At the general election in April, 1846, to which reference is made elsewhere, the residence of Mr. Mitchell was chosen as the place of voting for that precinct. The number of votes cast was 42, some of the electors coming by mistake from Jasper county, as was afterwards learned when the question of boundaries was better understood. One vote, Mr. Thornton, came from what is now known as Douglas township. The post office at Apple Grove, of which Mr. Mitchell was postmaster, was the only place, for several years, at which mail matter was received by the citizens of Beaver and the surrounding townships.

Eli Trullinger settled at the grove which bears his name in 1846, and he, together with Elijah Canfield, Thos. Black, and James M. Montgomery, the three last named of Camp township, were the nearest neighbors of Mr. Mitchell, and did their marketing with him. The entire produce of the surrounding country found for years a market at Apple Grove. 'Squire Burge, the first Justice of the Peace in Franklin township, settled there in 1846; and about the same time Ezekiel Jennings, Joseph Jones, Daniel Trullinger, Michael Lavish, John Fisher, and several of the Coreys, were pioneers in the new settlements. Most of these persons, as well as Mr. McCleary, who came in '48, have heretofore been mentioned.

NARRATIVE OF A. D. JONES.

Elsewhere in this history, mention is made of A. D. Jones, who first surveyed the town site of Fort Des Moines, using, as tradition affirms, a rope instead of a chain, in the execution of his work. This gentleman was the first County Surveyor. In 1868, while residing at Omaha, and not being able to attend in person the meeting of the Early Settlers'

Association of Polk County, which was called for that year, he addressed a letter of communication to that body, which has been forwarded to us through the kindness of Hon. Thomas Mitchell. This letter embraces so many events of a purely historic character, described in easy, familiar language, that we deem it proper to publish it in this place. Our readers are assured that its perusal will materially add to their information on the subjects of which it speaks, and they are assured, also, that many of the incidents related will be found to be rich, racy, and entertaining:

OMAHA, NEB., AUGUST 17, 1868.

Secretary O. S. Association, Polk County, Iowa:

Through the kindness of some unknown friend, I received a copy of the *Register* which contained a call for the assembling of all the Early Settlers of Polk County, whether residents at the present time of that county, or elsewhere. It would give me much pleasure to be with you on that interesting occasion, but my business may prevent me at that particular date. I will, therefore, endeavor to give you a few plain facts, without any efforts at display, which you may make use of as you deem proper in behalf of the Association.

You must excuse me if I should appear somewhat personal in reference to myself, as what I have to relate will of course pertain much to my own history, having been an active participant in much of what transpired while I resided on the ground of the old garrison of Fort Des Moines.

I arrived at old Father Meacham's, on the East side of the river, Des Moines, February 13th, 1846. Mr. Meacham at that time kept a tavern, and I think had some connection with a small store at the point. There I met Maj. McKay, February 23d. He was really much of a gentleman, always affable, and congenial. He was the first licensed attorney in the place, and it became my lot, as a common pettifog-

ger, to meet him occasionally before the *High Court of Justice of the Peace.* In the first case he was in the right of it, but I succeeded in throwing his client into the costs, and obtained the release of my own employer. A gentleman who had watched the progress of the case until its termination, came and tapped me on the shoulder, and said: "See here, Mister, I have been waiting here to ascertain who would be the successful lawyer in this case; I therefore want you to come with me, as I have three cases now for you." I went, and succeeded in gaining my point of releasing the prisoners. These were my first cases before a Justice of the Peace.

On the 14th of February, being the next day after I entered the county, I went over to the Garrison; attended a political mass meeting, in which I was called upon to act as Secretary; and by which I was also nominated as County Surveyor.

The question which then divided the people of the county, was Brooklyn vs. Des Moines for the County Seat. The Brooklyn party nominated a gentleman by the name of Woodward for County Surveyor, who beat me at the polls several votes. I contested the election, beat him, and received my certificate, and was sworn regularly into office.

During the election, it fell to my lot to attend the polls at Tom Mitchell's, who is, by the way, very much of a gentleman. Although I stood there all day, I believe I did not get one vote.

Another prominent old settler, by the name of Thomas McMullen, who afterwards married the daughter of Dr. F. C. Grimmel, was also at Mr. Meacham's when I came to the county.

Here let me mention a trick on the part of myself, and others who are residing there now, and they may connect themselves with the transaction if they deem proper:

Tom Baker was President of the Senate; Wall Clapp

was a grocery keeper; Whitten was County Clerk, and Judge Casady was Postmaster. The question of Seat of Government was prominent before the Legislature, and Ft. Des Moines was very much interested in the relocation. Baker, being the Representative of Polk County, and I having a business connection with him, first as student in law, and afterwards as his partner in practice, it of course brought me in direct correspondence with him, in a friendly and personal way, more than many others. All were very anxious to know when the question was to be settled, that they might buy town lots on which to speculate.

Now for the trick: Tom and P. M. will well remember it. They daily insisted so strongly for me to inform them what Baker had to say on the subject, when I had nothing conclusive myself, that I determined on having some fun over the question!

I talked the matter up with several prominent persons of that day, and it was agreed that I should write a letter, drop it in the postoffice, directed to myself: and when the crowd were in waiting for their mail, I was to receive mine. I received a long letter, went into the corner and read it to myself of course. Many were anxious to learn its contents. To a few leading ones I apparently divulged the secret of the great probability that the Capital would be located at Fort Des Moines. I having surveyed the town, and Wall Clapp and others, as well as myself, being apparently anxious to make some money out of our information, we took the plat and started out very secretly to select lots.

Persons would come to us and enquire what we were doing, but we would give evasive and doubtful answers; but they could see that we were selecting lots and apparently endeavoring to keep it secret. I being the prime mover in the matter, others came to the conclusion that I was in earnest and knew what I was doing. Anxiety took hold of Tom McMullen, and his father-in-law, and they commenced se-

lecting also in dead earnest. They bought about all they could pay one-third down for, and left the field with the proud satisfaction that they at least had a good thing in their recent purchase.

Then the cat was let loose, and to their great chagrin they learned that my movements were all a ruse, and of course they were not well pleased at the deception.

The joke turns, and I became the butt and laughing stock after a few years in consequence of the wealth which they accumulated out of that purchase, and my failure to realize in consequence of my not purchasing at the time they did. Notwithstanding the joke my friend Tom always remained on the best of terms with me so far as I know.

The first line I ever ran for pay was east of the river between Messrs. Hart and Meacham, February 21. In that region of country, along the Des Moines river, it was formerly quite brushy in places. I was employed to run *chain lines* occasionally where it was difficult to see the rod-man, and in many instances, I would require the rod-man to halloo and I would go for the sound.

February 23, John Scott's child died, being the first death in the county. February 28, the first delegates who went from the county to meet in convention with Jasper and Marion, to elect a delegate to assist in forming a Constitution, were Messrs. Lewis and Martin. Nothing was accomplished.

March 1st, the first marriage was solemnized between John Beard, and Nancy Jane Welman, by Rev. Mr. Post. The license was procured from Marion county.

The first store opened in Polk county was by Mr. Hoxie, March 2, at the house of Mr. Meacham.

A. N. Hays and Captain Allen, if I am not mistaken, opened a coal bank and stone quarry in 1843, being of course the first in the county.

During the stay of the Dragoons at the Fort, I witnessed

a very unpleasant scene, March 6, 1846. Two of the soldiers became intoxicated, and in consequence were put in the guard house. One was gagged and his hands tied behind him. The other one, after being kicked and cuffed across the toe-path repeatedly, had his hands tied behind him, and then tied to the ceiling just so that he could touch the floor, and the other fared the same fate before he was released.

The infantry had left the Fort before I came, and a portion of the Dragoons left with a lot of Indians, March 8. Capt. Grier, I believe, was in command. Mr. Drake, and afterwards Mr. Hart, had liquor to sell; but Wall Clapp was the first regular groceryman in the county, and occupied the old trading post of Mr. Whistler, at the junction of the Des Moines and 'Coon rivers. It was a log house extending in the direction of the Des Moines River.

Mr. Ayers, in "'Coon Row," and Mr. Thrift, in the country, were the first tailors, and were residents when I came, both having been connected with the army for some time.

On the platteau, or second bench, were several mounds, which I hold, and think I can prove, were the fallen residences of Indians—not graves. But I will not discuss that question here, although a very interesting one to the historian, as well as ourselves.

March 26, I started for the Three River country, for the purpose of appointing judges of election, leaving poll books, and selecting jurors, &c. I was acting as Deputy District Clerk under Perry L. Crossman; transacted nearly all the business, and organized the county, as the records will show. Dr. Brooks accompanied me.

Mr. Warren, Whig candidate for delegate to the Senatorial convention, to form a constitution for the future State of Iowa, spoke in Des Moines, March 31.

Having formerly acted in the capacity of Postmaster, I was solicited to assist in opening the first regular mail in

the county, April 1st, 1846—Dr. Brooks, Postmaster; time of arrival, every Wednesday, and departure, Thursday at 6 o'clock. I suppose you would now think that a long time to wait for the mail, but I assure you it was a very welcome visitor to us. The Dr. took the key, and opened the mail to obtain his bond and commission. Jeremiah Church and Mr. Newcomer, signed his bond, and I swore him into office. The mail was wet. I wrote the first two letters that started out in the mail, one to the Department, and another to my friend George W. Jones.

The first election was held April 6th, 1846. I find this note in my journal in reference to it: "Stood post at Mitchell's. Judges had erroneous views as to what constituted a resident, consequently everybody voted who wished to, even persons traveling. Fifteen to twenty illegal votes."

My opponent ran on Mitchell's popularity. Tom had a great influence at that date. He was a shrewd and an excellent manager of whatever he undertook, and a gentleman much liked by everybody who knew him.

Tom Mitchell was elected Sheriff; Judge McKay, County Clerk; Tom McMullen, Recorder. Meacham, Saylor, and Foutz, Commissioners. Mitchell had a free dinner.

J. B. Scott commenced running the first ferry, May 1, and Dr. Kirkbride came into the Fort, May 25. The County Seat was located at Fort Des Moines by M. T. Williams, of Mahaska, and Giles M. Pinneo, from Scott county, after riding over the county eight days. Log guns were fired, bonfires made, and the festivities of the occasion terminated at Tom Baker's, by the Polk County Band, which consisted of two fiddles, very unscientifically executed.

June 4, 1846, I commenced the survey of the town of Fort Des Moines. Martin Tucker started the first hotel. The first preacher of Polk County was Ezra Rathburn, Methodist, and about the smartest preacher we ever had in the County. Besides that, he was a gentleman; and not to

disparage others of his profession, he was every way their superior.

June 10, the first marriage license was issued to Benj. Bryant and Barbara Elvira Birge. At this date, we had a Justice by the name of Michael, who was called upon to perform the marriage ceremony; but not knowing how to go about the matter, he called upon me for advice. I gave him all the requisite instructions, as I supposed; but not being satisfied with that, he desired me to write what he should say. I therefore sat down and penciled off the following ceremony, and requested him to commit it to memory:

"The parties wishing to unite themselves in marriage, will join their right hands. Do you take the lady whom you hold by the hand to be your wife? Do you take the gentleman whom you hold by the hand to be your husband? By the authority vested in me, I pronounce you husband and wife."

I attended the wedding at Crossman's, and the 'Squire forgot the latter clause, and from the most distant corner of the house, in a loud voice, I repeated it for him, and they were married by his acknowledgment and certificate. On other occasions I was solicited by him to accompany him to guard and protect him from similar break-downs. One instance, of more peculiarity than others, now occurs to my mind, although I have forgotten the names; yet I remember the location of the scene to have been at the head, or upper end, of "'Coon Row." (Tom Mitchell can tell you where that was, if no others.) In order to familiarize the 'Squire with the ceremony, and its execution, and whilst conviviality was the order of the evening, I called up one couple after another, they enjoying the fun nearly as much as if it were reality, and went through the ceremony of marriage until all present, as well as the Justice, became sufficiently informed to go through the reality without mistake.

We celebrated the Fourth of July, 1846, with Tom Baker,

Orator; Major McKay, Reader of Declaration of Independence; Messrs. Winchester, Frazee, and Scott, Marshals, and myself acting as President of the day. Toasts were read and cheered. About two hundred people were in attendance. The day was very warm. Dinner, one dollar per couple. A dance was held at night; and take the day through, it was a pleasant and jolly gathering.

These relations of simple facts may not be interesting to your members, but of considerable importance to your Association.

There were many interesting lawsuits about these times; one in which old Squire Moody prosecuted John Thornby, for *cracking jokes*. Baker and myself for the plaintiff, and three attorneys for the defense. It was an action for assault and battery, and we failed in it for want of evidence.

July 13th and 14th, first sale of lots.

By the Census taken on the 18th, the population of Polk county was 1301. The number of persons in Fort Des Moines was 127; families, 23; and houses, 31; they being those erected by the Government as a Fort.

The lawyers in town July 23, 1846, were T. Baker, W. D. Frazee, P. M. Casady, L. D. Winchester, and Wm. McKay. Physicians, Dr. Fagan, a graduate of St. Louis, and Dr. Kirkbride.

One store assessed at $1,500.00, kept by B. T. Hoxie; one dry-goods and grocery store by A. Michael; a grocery and provision store by W. W. Clapp; a grocery (saloon) and place of amusement, by J. A. Campbell; a tavern by M. Tucker; an apothecary shop by L. D. Winchester; a turner and chair factory, Mr. Vannatta; a wagon maker and carpenter, D. Solenberger; mill-wright, John Ehle; and Mr. W. F. Ayers, a tailor. A. Michael, justice of the peace, and Jesse R. Miller, constable. Methodist Church with two ministers, E. Rathburn and his father; and a Babtist church.

July 23, I made it my business to take the census. There

where eleven young ladies, and thirteen young gentlemen, who were proper subjects of matrimony. I regret that I did not record their names, although I might now name some of them by guess.

A very perceptible difference was formerly noticed in reference to the waters of the Des Moines and 'Coon rivers, the former being much the warmer at the same hour.

Up to the 24th of July, I had issued four marriage licences. One of the gentlemen informed me had no money to pay for his license, and proposed to pay for it in splitting rails. Inasmuch as I was not in want of such services, I declined the proffered labor, and donated him the license.

The first frame building put up in Fort Des Moines, was by David Solenberger, and was eighteen by twenty, with nine feet story.

July 25th, lots at first sale brought from $10 to $160, Wall Clapp paying the highest price for the lot nearest the junction of 'Coon and Des Moines rivers. The lots were disposed of principally to speculators.

At the first election there, there were one hundred and seventy-nine votes given for the two candidates for Sheriff.

At the August election following, I must have been very popular, for I was elected Constable by the Whigs, and Justice of the Peace by the Democrats; and took my certificates from both. It was through spite that the Whigs ran me for Constable.

At the August election the number of votes cast was 211 making a gain of 32 votes in four months.

If any of you have any curiosity to look into an old Squire's docket, get that of Esq. Stark, near Dr. Brooks It will make you shake your sides every time you think of it. For a number of years I kept many of the cases in memory, but they have passed from me to such an extent that I could not render them sufficiently intelligible.

The first burial was that of a gentleman from over the 'Coon, August 8th.

It may not be uninteresting to the Association to learn who inhabited that wild region, August 18th, 1846. I will therefore present you with the principal names of the citizens of your city at that date.

Ezra Rathburn, father, two young ladies, and two young men; D. Solenberger and wife; W. W. Clapp and wife; J. Campbell, wife and two or three children; Mr. Thorp and several children; Mr. Morris, wife and children; Sam Vanatta, wife and children; B. T. Hoxie, wife and children; Martin Tucker, wife and several children; Col. T. Baker, wife and several children; Mr. Caves, wife and two children; Wm. Ward and wife; Perry Wear and wife; William F. Ayers, wife and children; A. Michael, wife and child; Col. John Rose, wife and children; Mr. Crews and wife; P. L. Crossman, wife and child; John Ehle, wife and child; Mr. Buzick, wife and children.

Among the young folks, I find the following names: Miss Mary Thorp, a marriageable young lady, with a sister just beginning to look upon the bright side of matrimony; Miss Malissa Hoxie was also in the line of marriageable promotion; also, Miss Luticia Tucker, and Miss Kirkbride. An old maid, by the name of Jemima Scott, and several others whose names I have forgotten.

The young gentlemen about the town were: George A. Michael, Dr. Kirkbride, Thomas McMullen, P. M. Casady, L. McHenry, Lewis Whitten, Maj. Wm. McKay, Jonathan Rathburn, and Ezra Rathburn.

PIONEER EXPERIENCES.

John D. McGlothlen informs us that when he arrived, with his family, at their new home in Allen township, which occurred in June, 1846, he accepted the hospitality of James Davis, an old bachelor, who tendered his cabin to the new-comers until such time as they could erect one for themselves. Here, in their new home, the ague made an

invasion; and Mr. McGlothlen, his wife, and children, became victims of this annoying disease. October 2d, 1846, they got possession of the cabin on their own farm.

The structure which they inhabited had but one room in it; and the puncheons used for flooring purposes were so scanty that they covered but half the earth on the inside from view. There was neither door nor window; but as a substitute for these, the opening which had been made for a fire-place, was employed for this purpose. In time, however, as the fire-place and chimney were in process of construction, it became difficult to establish communication with the outside world through such a peculiar orifice. In the midst of sickness and discouragements, the necessary improvements were made to the building before the advent of very cold weather. The nearest grist mill, at the time, was Duncan's, near Oskaloosa; and during the fall of 1846, Mr. McGlothlen took his team of four horses, and large covered wagon—the same which had brought himself and family from Indiana—and proceeded to the mill, taking with him a number of grists for waiting families in the neighborhood. Arriving at the mill, he found it so crowded with anxious customers, that he deemed it advisable to go farther. At Farmington, he found the situation the same; and success did not crown his efforts until he reached Bonaparte, on the lower Des Moines river. On the homeward route, bad weather set in, and teaming became heavy and laborious. It took him just twenty-one days to make the round trip.

METHODIST REUNION.

In September, 1867, the three Conferences of the M. E. Church in the State, viz: Iowa, Upper Iowa, and Des Moines, had a fraternal meeting in this city. Bishops Janes, Clark, and Thompson, were present. Hon. C. C. Nourse, in behalf of the city, made the welcoming speech to the Con-

ferences. It was an interesting convocation of ministers, and will long be remembered by our citizens.

GOVERNOR CARPENTER.

In 1853, while J. C. Savery was keeping hotel at the old Hoxie stand on Third street, Gov. C. C. Carpenter, then young and unknown, came to Fort Des Moines on his first tour to the West, in search of a school. After sojourning for a time with Mr. Savery, and failing to obtain a school here, took up his satchel, and wended his tedious and weary way to Fort Dodge, eighty-five miles, as a pedestrian. It is hardly probable, while achieving this laborious journey on foot, that the young immigrant looked forward prophetically to the time when he would become Governor of a great State, with more than a million inhabitants. Such is fate, or rather, such is grit, pluck, brains, and a superintending Providence.

THE GUARD HOUSE.

The old Government Guard House was erected just at the place where Vine and Third streets now intersect each other. A partition was run through it, and here, in 1846, Mr. Campbell kept a grocery, with his provisions on one side of the partition, and his various liquors on the other. On the liquor side, as he affirms, the first Grand Jury of the county met for consultation; and it is easily imagined, that in those times when whisky was much more popular than it is now, the jurors had a good time of it in their solemn convocations.

W. A. SCOTT.

The body of W. A. Scott, was brought back from Denver, where he died in 1857, and buried on Capital Hill, near the old Capitol, under the shade of an oak tree. This was done in consequence of his own request. He had

spent a common fortune in improvements at Fort Des Moines, and it was but natural that he should wish to be brought back here for burial, so that his body might repose among scenes and associations of the olden time, which he loved so well. Nothing to-day, marks the spot where he rests, but a rude fence around his grave.

THE FIRST WELL.

The first well in the county, was excavated by Isaac Cooper, who employed in the operation a pair of skillets which had been left by the Indians. The well was twenty feet deep.

A PRIMATIVE CHURN.

Peter Newcomer, a substantial old settler, who still remains with us, obtained from Captain Allen, February 1844, a permit to make a claim four miles east of the Fort. As a substitute for a churn, Mr. N. hollowed out a log, and for a dasher, he brought into requisition a hickory pole, thus ingeniously supplying his wife with an invention for making butter.

THE HOSTILE SIOUX.

Often during the sojourn of the soldiers at the Fort, popular excitements were occasioned among the Indians, as well as whites, by rumors of expected raids from the hostile Sioux. At such times the stolid and phlegmatic Sac, made indolent by the help and protection of the Government, would turn away philosophically from the scout who brought the news, and retire to his quarters to re-employ his valuable time in playing cards and other recreations.

EARLY DESPERADOES.

Much trouble was experienced at times by the soldiers and settlers, which was caused by the importation into the coun-

try of a number of armed desperadoes who were constantly engaged in planning and executing their schemes of violence and outlawry. On one occasion, two or three of these ruffians, among whom was a scamp by the name of Jonas Carsner, succeeded in stealing several horses belonging to the Sacs. A detachment of men was sent out by order of Captain Allen, to arrest the thieves, and bring them to punishment. Jonas Carsner was caught, and after a summary trial which elicited no direct evidence against the defendant, he was delivered over into the hands of Sergeants Haley, Good ell Smith, and another person whose name has not transpired. These soldiers, disguised as Indians, gave to the culprit a thorough and satisfactory whipping, which he doubtless deserved, and then let him go.

A man named Fish, from whom two horses had been sto len by Carsner's band of ruffians, started out after the whipping and dismissal of the latter, to hunt for his lost property. He was mounted on a horse belonging to a Sac. As he was passing the skirt of a forest, Carsner suddenly leaped from his ambuscade, cut the saddle-girth, hurled Fish to the ground, mounted his horse, and rode away in triumph. The unfortunate Fish, who was out of water at this discomfiture, footed it back to the garrison, where he reported the results of his luckless trip, amid the execrations of the Sacs, and the laughter of the soldiers.

WOLVES.

Wolves were numerous and mischievous in those times. They repeatedly infested the cabin of John Saylor, who was running a garrison farm north of the Fort. At a certain time, when Mr. S. was absent on business in Van Buren county, these animals became so impudent and ferocious that, approaching the cabin with clamorous howls, they climed every accessible eminence, and peered savagely through the windows, threatening the wife who was the only occupant of the building.

A KNOCK-DOWN ARGUMENT.

Shortly after John Saylor established himself in the township which bears his name, a number of besotted Indians came to his cabin, and demanded meat and other supplies for their expectant stomachs. Mr. Saylor was not in a condition to surrender provisions which his family needed; and in the crisis of the emergency, he grasped a stout hickory sapling, and after knocking down a number of the dusky intruders, he managed to drive the others away, thus achieving in this unequal conflict a victory over his enemies!

ISAAC COOPER.

Isaac Cooper at one time took a grist of corn from Oskaloosa to Parmalee's mill to be ground. The river was very high, and he was obliged to ferry his corn across on a raft of logs. Subsequently, he sold the meal at the Fort, for two dollars per bushel. The first chair in the County was manufactured by the same gentleman, the material of which was a black walnut tree, the bottom being formed of the bark. As boots and shoes were a scarce commodity, Mr. Cooper, recognizing the fact that necessity is the mother of invention, employed the tops of boots discarded by the dragoons, and parts of saddle-skirts, wherewith to fashion a pair of shoes for one of his children. He states that these shoes were an improvement, for real value, on any others, which have since been used.

OLD RACE COURSE.

The site of the present Methodist Church, on Fifth street, was originally part of an Indian race-course, whereon these aboriginal inhabitants tried the speed and bottom of their ponies, generally winning when they staked their bets against white competitors.

FIRST CELEBRATION.

On the Fourth of July, 1846, a celebration occurred at Fort Des Moines in honor of the day. It was a spirited affair, mixed up with anvil explosions, and numerous other noises which convulsed the air. Many shots were fired by the soldiers for fun and glory into the garrison buildings; and the little boys had a rare time while engaged in extracting the balls which penetrated the palisades. Early in the day a procession, two hundred strong, was formed under the direction of Messrs. Winchester, Frazee and Scott, Marshals of the day; and marching to a grove on the West Side, where Col. Tom Baker delivered a patriotic discourse, and where a sumptous dinner was served up to the waiting crowd. In the evening the festivities were continued by a dance, made lively by the two fiddles which had been used in the celebration during the former part of the day. Thus ended the first celebration of our nation's birth in Polk County.

FIRST PRISONER.

Thomas Mitchell, Sheriff of Polk County, received the first prisoner into custody. The defendant was from Mercer county, Missouri, and was charged with murder. The arrest was made by Peter Myers. When the requisition for the prisoner came from the Governor of Missouri; an attempt was made by his friends to rescue him, but Messrs. Mitchell and Myers skillfully eluded them, and the murderer was promptly delivered into the hands of the proper authorities.

A BEAR STORY.

In 1846, Camillus Leftwich, who with his family had been snake-haunted in a rail pen for six weeks, started out one

morning to traverse a large area of country, in quest of neighbors to assist him in raising his cabin, which was situated in Four Mile Township. On his way, he saw a large black bear emerging from a thicket. He made a note of this circumstance in his mind; and after the cabin had been raised, Mr. Letwich and his neighbors concluded to indulge in a bear hunt. Armed with such implements of slaughter as they could find, and supported by three greyhounds, the party commenced to hunt. Bruin was discovered, and from a distance of fifty yards, Mr. L. took aim with his old flint-lock gun, and the bear yielded up the ghost!

COUNTY SEAT CONTROVERSY.

The war between Brooklyn and Des Moines, in 1846, for the County Seat location, was peculiarly exciting, enlisting the sympathies and active efforts of the friends of both localities. Thomas Mitchell, Dr Fagan, and two other gentlemen, all of whom were interested in favor of Fort Des Moines, started on a cold February day to Iowa City, whither they were going as lobby members to confer with the Commissioners of location. The first night, chilled and weary, and half famished, they called a halt four miles east of Newton, at Bennett's cabin, where they sojourned until morning, sleeping on a trundle bed. They broke their fast with corn bread and sour bacon; and they left the cabin refreshed and full of hope and courage.

CURIOUS HABITATION.

It is reported of James Smith, the eminent pomologist, that he and his son, being at a loss to provide themselves with a habitation during their first winter's sojourn in that part of Delaware Township which now belongs to Douglass, excavated a hole in the side of a hill, the door to which was constructed of slabs. Near this unpromising residence, the first nursery was started in Polk County.

J. C. JORDAN.

J. C. Jordan, who settled in Walnut Township in 1848, had the advantage of his pioneer neighbors in some architectural conveniences. Ordinarily, the pioneer's door was composed of slabs, or rude boards, rived from a black walnut tree, fastened together with cross pieces, through which wooden pegs were driven into the slabs. Added to this, the primitive door was suspended on wooden hinges; and a wooden latch, with string attachments extending through a hole to the outside, for the welcome visitor to grasp with friendly hand, completed the arrangement. Mr. Jordan, however, gave to his cabin a regular battened door, whose modern air made it an object of general admiration.

WALNUT CREEK MILL.

'Coon River was dammed, and a race was cut from it to a point on Walnut Creek, on which Baker's flouring and saw mill, was erected, thus operating a mill on one stream by the water of another. This mill was continued until about 1860, when it was abandoned to decay.

STEAMBOATS.

Our friend C. A. Mosier, to whom we are indebted for many valuable facts of history, states that he has seen as many as six steamboats, at one time, at the Point, that is, at the junction of the Des Moines and 'Coon rivers.

FIRST ORCHARD.

The first apple and peach orchard in Polk County, was set out by E. Mosier, in 1848, on what is now called Burnham Farm, two miles north of the city, on the Ft. Dodge stage road. Two heavy crops of peaches were produced in 1855 and 1856; but the trees were winter-killed in 1857.

DR. J. C. BENNETT.

In one of the old stage barns erected by U. S. troops in 1843, Dr. J. C. Bennett was compelled to suppress the sale of his work, entitled "Expose of Mormonism." Ropes and revolvers were freely used to bring about this result.

POLK'S COMPLIMENTS TO GUTHRIE.

A glance over Mrs. Maxwell's interesting and well written History of Guthrie County, shows that Polk County played an important part in shaping the destinies of that prairie commonwealth. As late as 1859, Des Moines was the Guthrie county settlers' base of supplies for the purchase of groceries and dry goods. Here, also, they came for flour and meal.

Mr. Lewis Whitten, of Polk, and David Bishop, of Madison, were the Commissioners to locate the county seat.

The Baptist Church was organized in August, 1858, by Rev. J. A. Nash.

Hon. Isaac Parrish, of Des Moines, was the first resident attorney, and was District Attorney in 1855.

The first editor in the county, if we are correctly informed—Mr. John E. Parrish, also went from Des Moines.

The first religious services held in the county, were in Jackson township, Rev. Michael Hare, a Methodist clergyman from Des Moines, officiating.

In 1852, in the same township, a post office was established, named Allen, in compliment to B. F. Allen.

The first criminal prosecution was that of Wm. Rhoades and Noah Trogler, for larceny. There is yet in existence the receipt of "W. H. McHenry, Sheriff of Polk County," for the prisoners who were sent to Des Moines for safe keeping. If there's anything connected with old settlerism anywhere in this vicinity that our Bill hasn't had a hand in, it has not yet been made public.—*State Register, Nov.*, 1876.

THE LATE ELECTION.

The following is the result of the late election in this county, November 7, 1876:

For President—Hayes, 4,324; Tilden, 2,382; Cooper, 482.

For Secretary of State—Young, 4,337; Stubenrauch, 2,374; Macready, 476.

For Auditor of State—Sherman, 4,349; Groneweg, 2,367; Brown, 477.

For Treasurer of State—Bemis, 4,330; Jones, 2,382; Fry, 476.

For Register of State Land Office—Secor, 4,323; Ridenour, 2,356; Walker, 507.

For Attorney General—McJunkin, 4,327; Cook, 2,379.

For Judge Supreme Court—Seevers, 4,329; Hayes, 2,379; Negus, 476.

Jor Judge to fill Vacancy—Rothrock, 4,311; Graham, 2,316; Jones, 453.

For Superintendent Public Instruction—Von Coelln, 4,263; Nash, 2,799.

For Congress—Cummings, 4,178; Gilpin, 2,332; Hastie, 640.

For Circuit Judge—Mitchell, 5,701.

For Clerk of Courts—Keys, 4,508; King, 2,244; Mcwhorter, 434.

For Recorder—Read, 4,380; Stutz, 2,350; Norris, 416.

The Republican majorities range from 1,500 to 2,300. The total vote cast in the county on the President was 7,188, while 3,477 were cast in Des Moines.

THE CAPITAL CITY.

There is no grander site in the country, on which to build up a magnificent city, than the one which was chosen for the Capital of Iowa. Shrewd and sagacious men, who had

the ability to comprehend the great natural advantages of this site, and who had the ability, likewise, to penetrate the future, anticipating the prospective greatness of our city, made early investments here, knowing that the time would surely come in which they would reap a rich harvest of prosperity. Well do we remember the impression made on our mind, nearly a quarter of a century ago, when, for the first time, we stood on Capitol Hill, and looked westward over the luxuriant landscape, in the midst of which the embryo city reposed in all its positive, as well as its prophetic beauty.

From the eminence whereon we stood, our eyes were cast downward along the slope of the hill, the surface of which was dotted by forest trees and occasional residences. Farther on, we saw the plain, or beautiful valley, stretching away from the base of the hill to the river, covered here and there with unpretentious buildings, erected by the pioneers of the Capital City. In the center of the valley, penetrating it from north to south, we saw the river Des Moines, whose limpid and placid current flashed back a myriad rays of light from the sun which was smiling in the noonday sky, as though conferring its benediction on the infant city.

Following the course of the river southward, we saw its fine tributary, the Raccoon, moving in its quiet and rippling flow from the West, and bringing its mass of sparkling waters, as a tribute of respect and reverence, to the beautiful stream with which it became blended.

Looking beyond the Des Moines river, our eyes fell on the old town of Fort Des Moines, nestling in the valley, and impressing us with the beauty and picturesqueness of the prospect. Here, near the river, the dwellings and business houses became more numerous and more ambitious; and beyond these, the plain which extended to the bluffs, was

not only magnificent in itself, but was large enough to form the site of a vast metropolis.

In the splendid panorama, spread out before our delighted vision, we could not fail to survey with pleasure the bold and romantic hights, which, on both sides of the two rivers, encompassed the valley, seeming to come down from their tree crowned eminences, to do honor to the young city which was destined in time to become the metropolis of Iowa. Now, then, if the reader has followed us in our description, so as to comprehend the beautiful scenery of this locality, with its spacious valley, separated by the rivers, and its cordon of wooded heights, standing around it like invincible sentinels, watching through the years its progress and security, he will agree with us, in the declaration, that there is no city amid the landscapes of earth, on which Nature in her benevolence has lavished more kindness, than our beloved Des Moines.

SILVER WEDDINGS.

We have just space enough at the close of this volume, to state that the silver weddings of W. W. Moore, Dr. W. H. Ward, and L. P. Sherman, were celebrated at the residence of the first named gentleman, Tuesday evening, November 25, 1876. Dr. Ward came to this part of the country in 1848, and was united to Miss Allie Yount, on North river, in Warren county. He practiced medicine many years at Carlisle, before removing to Des Moines. Rev. Sanford Hoines solemnized the marriage.

W. W. Moore and Mary Ann Winchester were wedded at the old Winchester residence in Des Moines, which occupied the site of the Valley Bank. Rev. J. A. Nash officiated at the ceremony. Mr. Moore is the veteran merchant, having been longer in that business in Des Moines than any of his present cotemporaries.

Mr. Sherman was united in this place to Miss Susan R.

Lawson, Rev. Thompson Bird officiating. The ceremony took place at the residence of James Hall, corner of Court Avenue and First street. Mr. Sherman was the pioneer editor; Dr. Ward was the pioneer physician, and Mr. Moore was the pioneer merchant.

The old settlers' gifts, at this rare celebration, consisted of a silver set donated to each couple; the three sets being worth $500.00. The recipients of these fine gifts were unprepared by any previous intimation for their reception. Judge W. W. Williamson, by invitation, addressed Mr. Sherman and his lady, Judge Phillips, also by invitation, addressed Mr. Moore and his lady; and Judge Casady was called out to address Dr. Ward and his wife, to which he gracefully responded. Messrs Thomas Hatton, Jr., J. P. Sharman, and Misses Jennie Nash, and Carrie Laird, with Professor Proctor at the organ, furnished the choicest music for the occasion. Rev. J. A. Nash, in behalf of the principals, acknowledged the reception of the silver sets from the Old Settlers.

CRYSTAL LODGE.

Crystal Lodge, Mitchellville, No. 313, was organized November 20, 1871. The charter members were: S. S. Moore, H. J. Grismer, N. W. Cram, E. S. Hagaman, J. R. Sage, Peter Miller, J. Russell, D. N. Darley, Joe Riggott, and C. C. Ellis.

The first officers were: S. S. Moore, W. M.; H. J. Grismer, Sen. W.; E. S. Hagawan, Jun. W.

The present officers are: Robert Ball, W. M.; W. S. Jones, Sen. W.; L. W. Cannon, Jun. W.

This Lodge has sixty members. Seven have demitted, and one has been called from labor to refreshment, since organization.

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